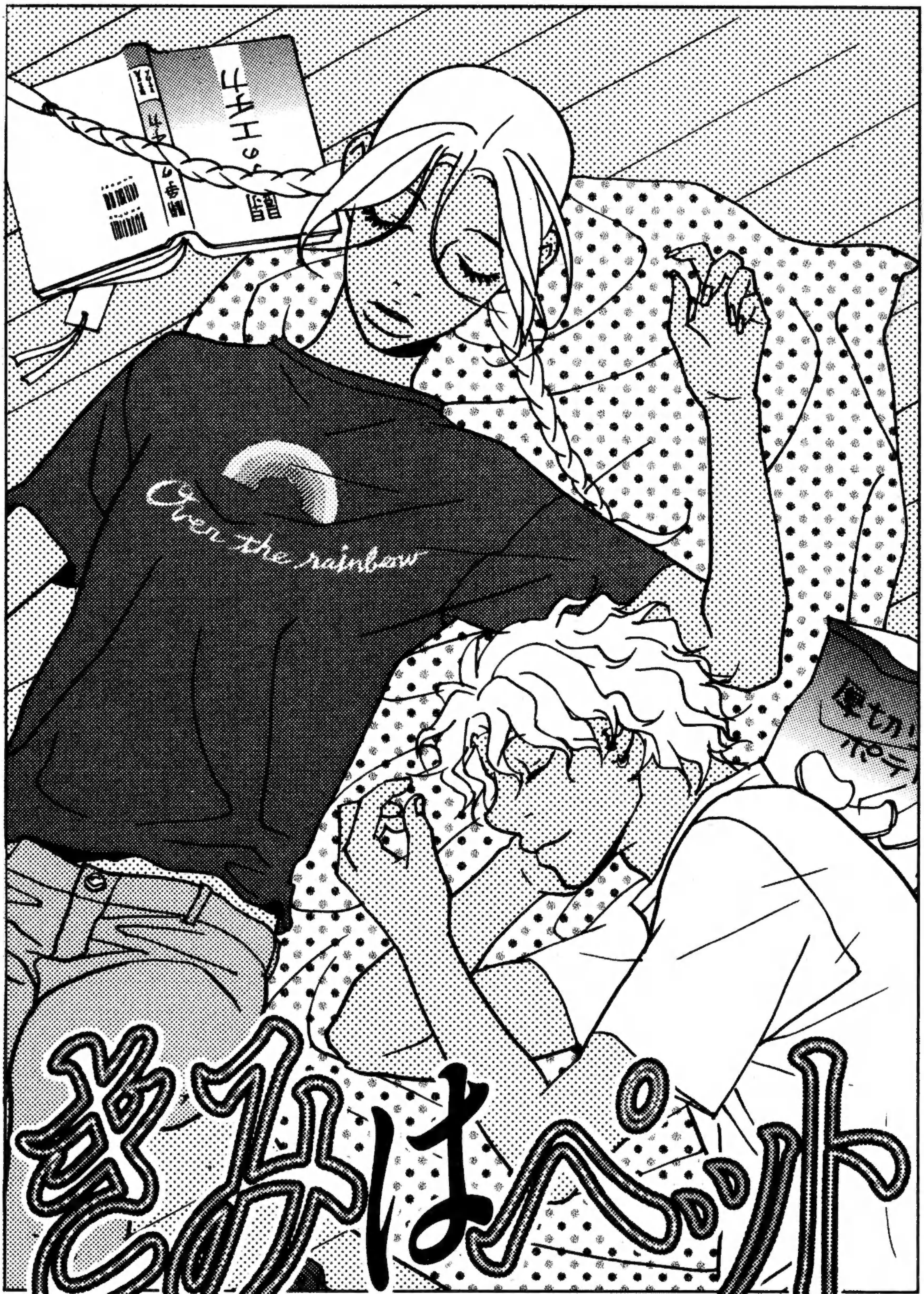
You're my Pet

3

Yayoi Ogawa



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KIMI WA PET

—3—

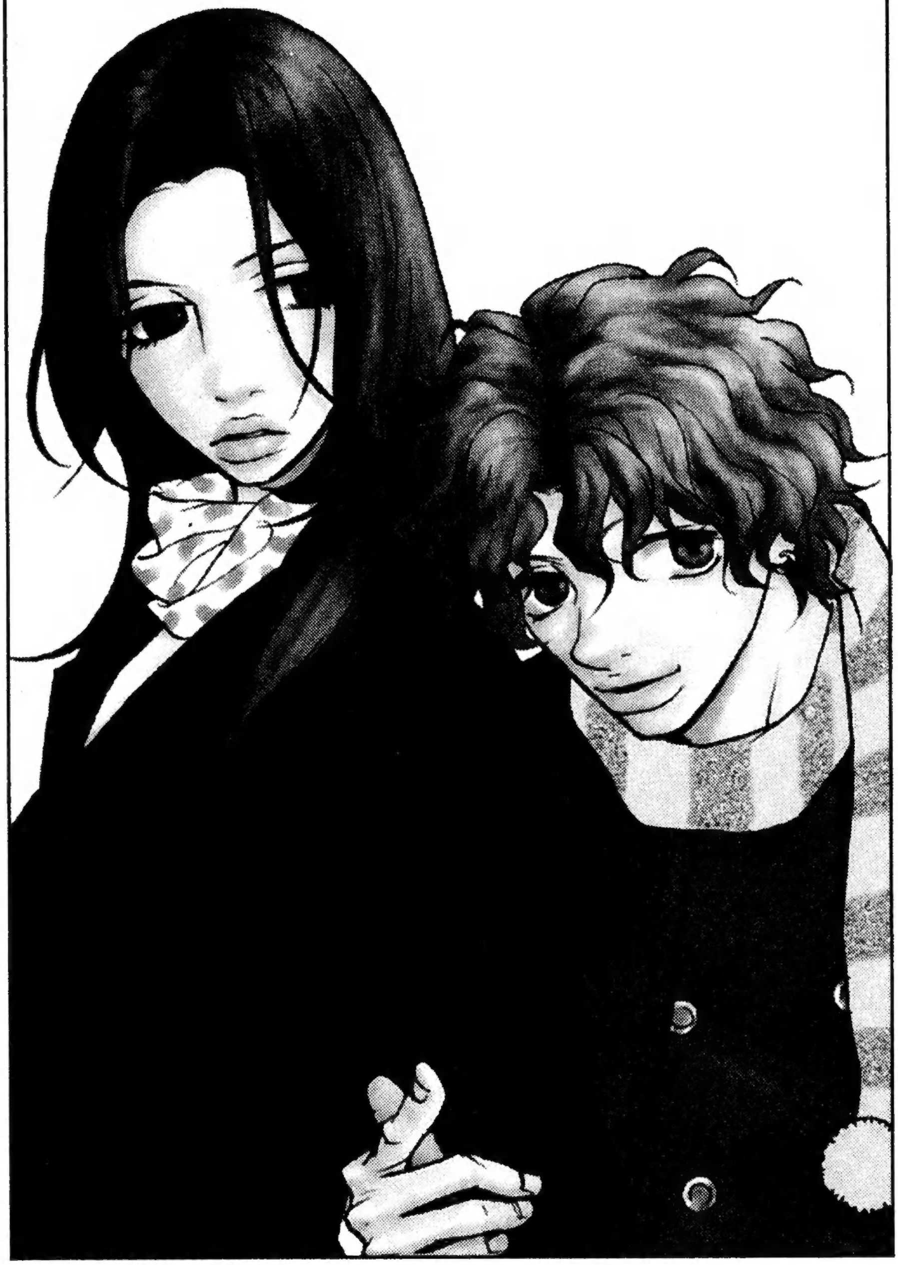
YAYOI OGAWA

小川彌生

You're my Pet

BY YAYOI OGAWA

VOL. 3



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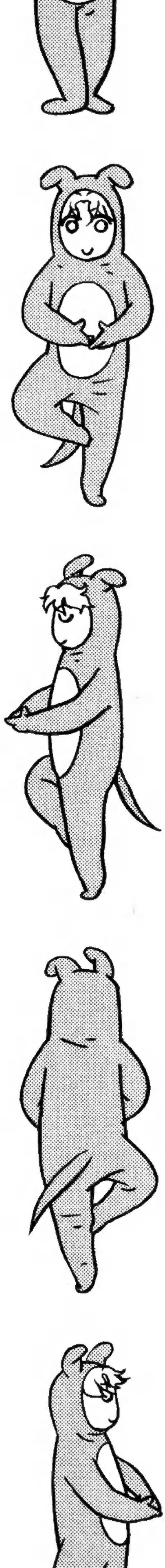
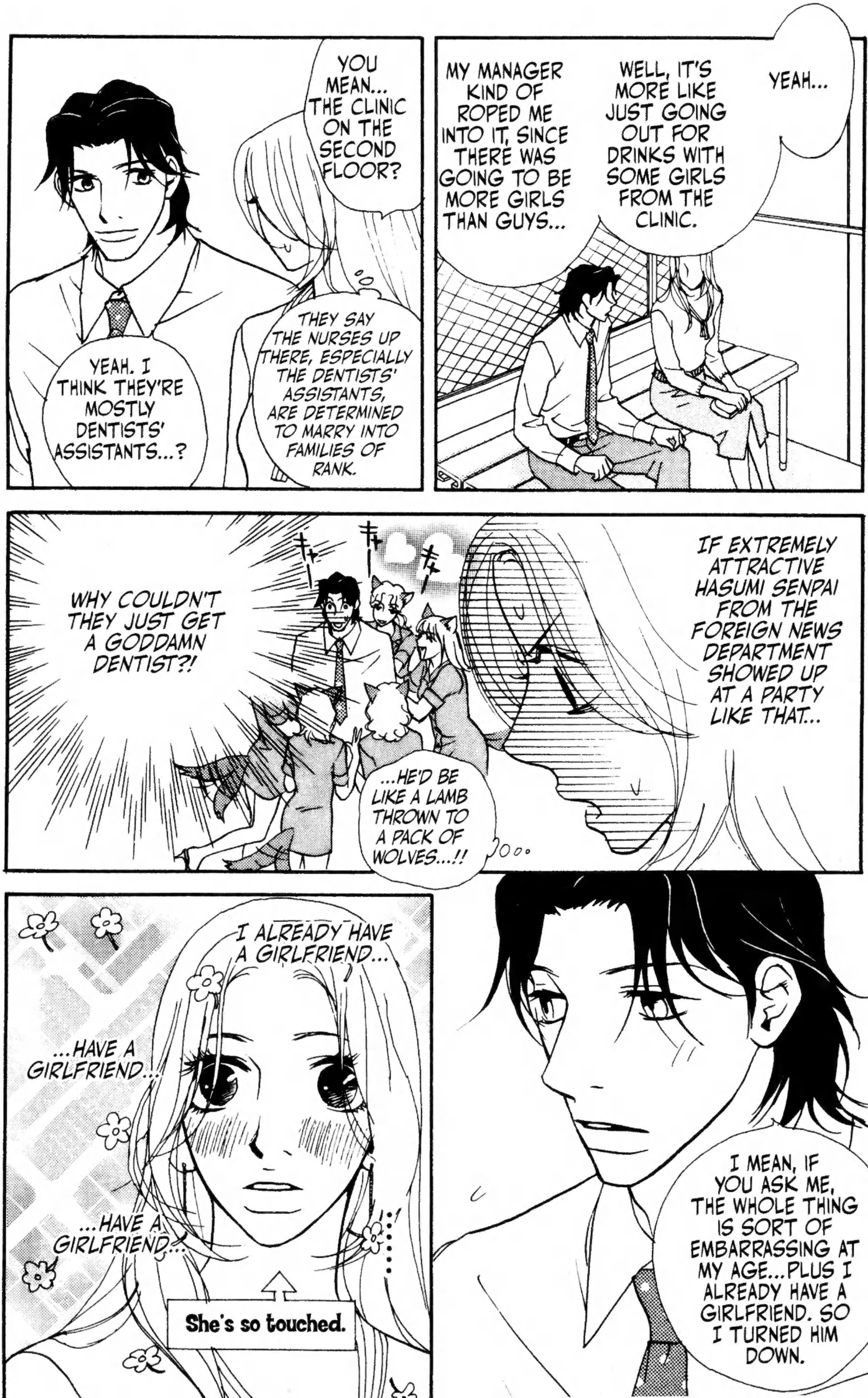
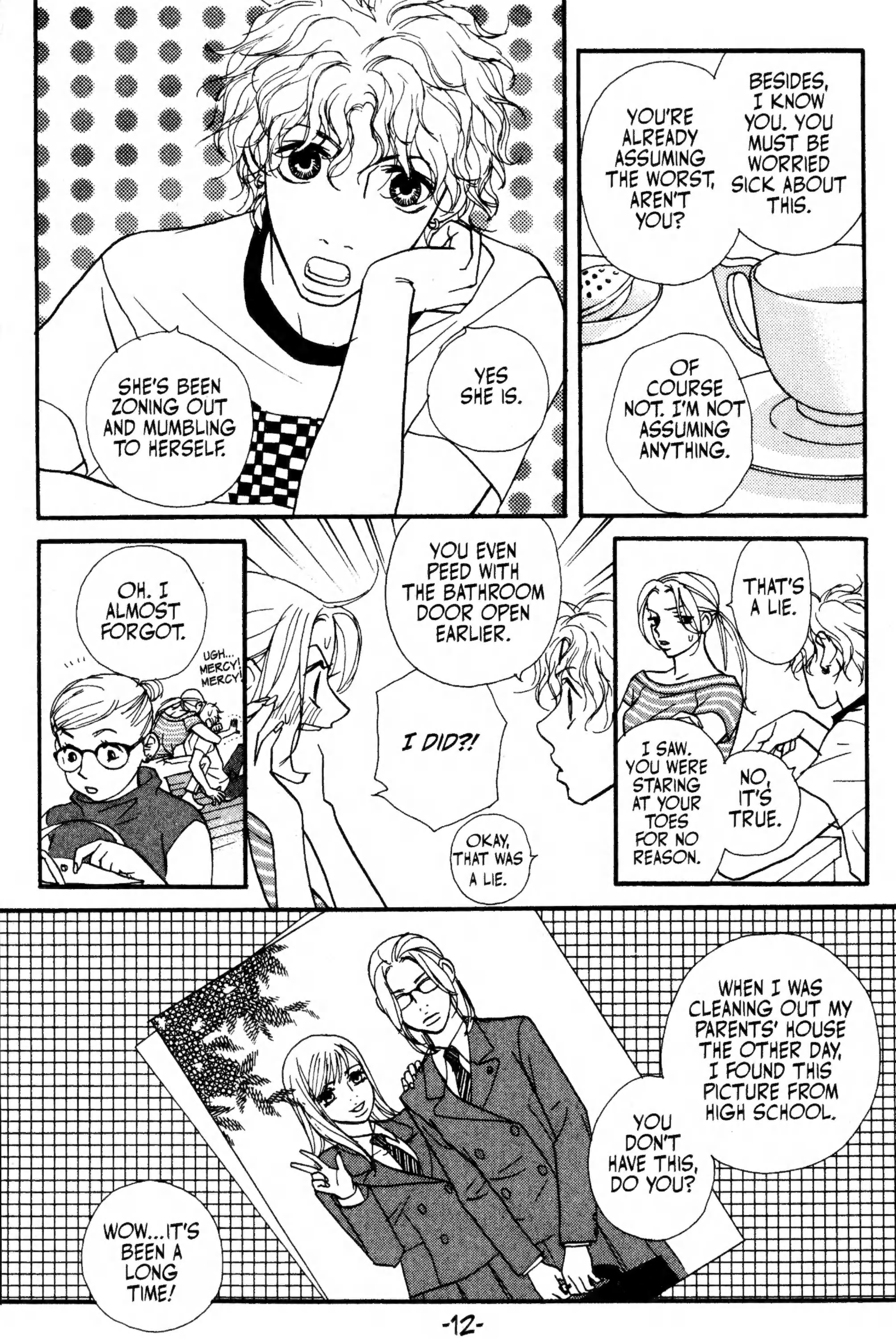


THE FIRST GUY I EVER DATED WAS TAKADA, WHO WAS GOING TO THE SAME CRAM SCHOOL AS ME.
ON OUR FIRST DATE, HE OFFERED TO TAKE ME TO A HOTEL. AND I PUNCHED HIM IN THE FACE. WHICH, OBVIOUSLY, KILLED THE MOOD.
NO!
REST
STAY
MY SECOND BOYFRIEND WAS JEAN-PAUL. I MET HIM AT HARVARD.
AFTER THREE MONTHS OF DATING, I FOUND OUT THAT HE ACTUALLY HAD FOUR PARTNERS INCLUDING MYSELF (ONE OF THEM MALE). THAT'S PRETTY MUCH WHERE THAT ENDED.
C'EST L'AMOUR... L'AMOUR!
MY THIRD MAN WAS YOSHIDA FROM THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT. AFTER FIVE YEARS OF DATING, HE CHEATED ON ME. EXIT YOSHIDA.
AND THE FOURTH WAS SOME SON OF A CORPORATE PRESIDENT I MET DURING AN INTERVIEW. IT ENDED PRETTY QUICKLY WHEN HE FOUND OUT ABOUT MOMO.
AND NOW, MY NEW BOYFRIEND...
...IS ABOUT TO HURT ME FOR THE FIRST TIME...
A SINGLES PARTY...?!



YEAH...
WELL, IT'S MORE LIKE JUST GOING OUT FOR DRINKS WITH SOME GIRLS FROM THE CLINIC.
MY MANAGER KIND OF ROPED ME INTO IT, SINCE THERE WAS GOING TO BE MORE GIRLS THAN GUYS...
YOU MEAN... THE CLINIC ON THE SECOND FLOOR?
YEAH. I THINK THEY'RE MOSTLY DENTISTS' ASSISTANTS...?
THEY SAY THE NURSES UP THERE, ESPECIALLY THE DENTISTS' ASSISTANTS, ARE DETERMINED TO MARRY INTO FAMILIES OF RANK.
IF EXTREMELY ATTRACTIVE HASUMI SENPAI FROM THE FOREIGN NEWS DEPARTMENT SHOWED UP AT A PARTY LIKE THAT...
...HE'D BE LIKE A LAMB THROWN TO A PACK OF WOLVES...!!
WHY COULDN'T THEY JUST GET A GODDAMN DENTIST?!
I MEAN, IF YOU ASK ME, THE WHOLE THING IS SORT OF EMBARRASSING AT MY AGE...PLUS I ALREADY HAVE A GIRLFRIEND. SO I TURNED HIM DOWN.
I ALREADY HAVE A GIRLFRIEND...
...HAVE A GIRLFRIEND...
...HAVE A GIRLFRIEND...
She's so touched.

I DON'T GET WHY YOU WERE SO TOUCHED THAT YOUR BOYFRIEND CALLED YOU HIS GIRLFRIEND?
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?
HEY, IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL TO ME! MIGHT EVEN BE FUN.
EH?
I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND. I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE TO SAVE FACE WITH A MANAGER.
REALLY-- I DON'T MIND AT ALL!
I MEAN, IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT, YOU NEED TO SHOW GENEROSITY...
...BUT YOU STILL HAVE TO EXPRESS WITH YOUR EYES THAT YOU *DO* MIND.
EYES...?
...LIKE... HOW?
THAT IS A VERY BASIC TECHNIQUE FOR KEEPING A BOYFRIEND!
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING, JUST THROWING HIM TO THE WOLVES LIKE THAT?!
......
Goosebumps
WHAT? BUT YOU ALREADY HAVE *ME*. A *SINGLES* PARTY...?
PLEASE. DON'T GO.

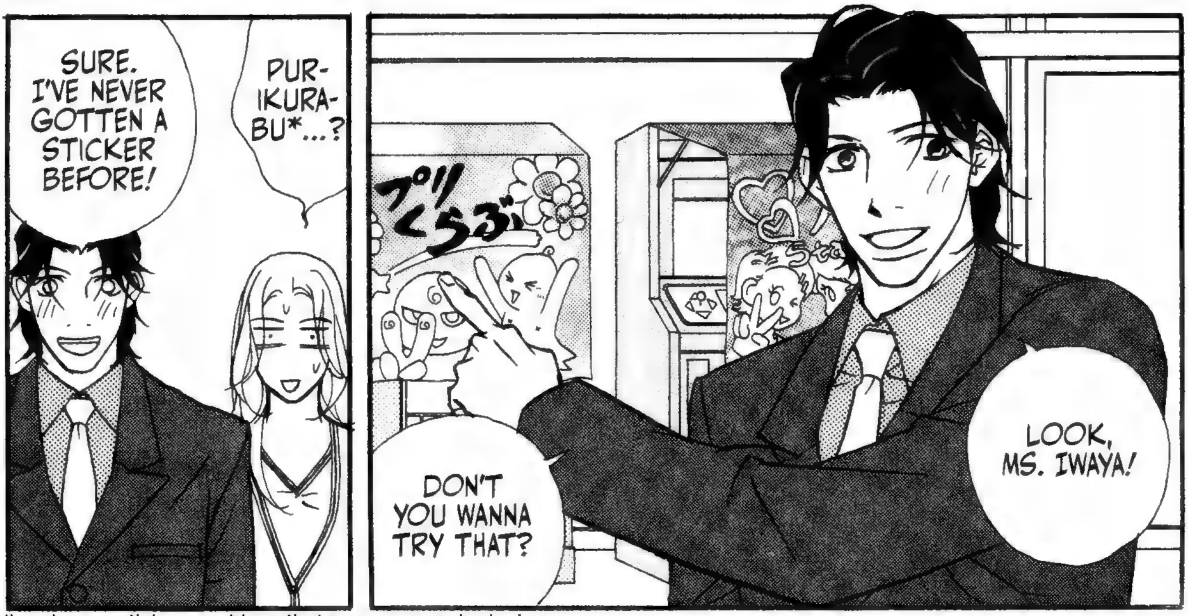

BESIDES, I KNOW YOU. YOU MUST BE WORRIED SICK ABOUT THIS.
YOU'RE ALREADY ASSUMING THE WORST, AREN'T YOU?
OF COURSE NOT. I'M NOT ASSUMING ANYTHING.
YES SHE IS.
SHE'S BEEN ZONING OUT AND MUMBLING TO HERSELF.
THAT'S A LIE.
NO, IT'S TRUE.
I SAW. YOU WERE STARING AT YOUR TOES FOR NO REASON.
YOU EVEN PEED WITH THE BATHROOM DOOR OPEN EARLIER.
I DID?!
OKAY, THAT WAS A LIE.
OH. I ALMOST FORGOT.
UGH... MERCY! MERCY!
WHEN I WAS CLEANING OUT MY PARENTS' HOUSE THE OTHER DAY, I FOUND THIS PICTURE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
YOU DON'T HAVE THIS, DO YOU?
WOW...IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME!

WHO'S THAT? SHE'S SO BEAUTIFUL.
YOU CAN'T TELL?
IT'S YURI.
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING!!!
YOU WENT FROM THAT... TO...?
WHAT ON EARTH DID YOU DO TO DESERVE SUCH PUNISHMENT FROM GOD...?!
BACK THEN, YURI WAS REALLY POPULAR.
SHE WAS WITH A DIFFERENT GUY EVERY TIME I SAW HER.
NOT ONLY THAT...I DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE FOUND THEM, BUT THEY WERE ALL REALLY GOOD-LOOKING!
MAY I KILL YOUR PET?
UH, SUMIRE?
SINCE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT ...
...DON'T YOU THINK YOUR LUCK WITH MEN IS PRETTY BAD?
She gets it.

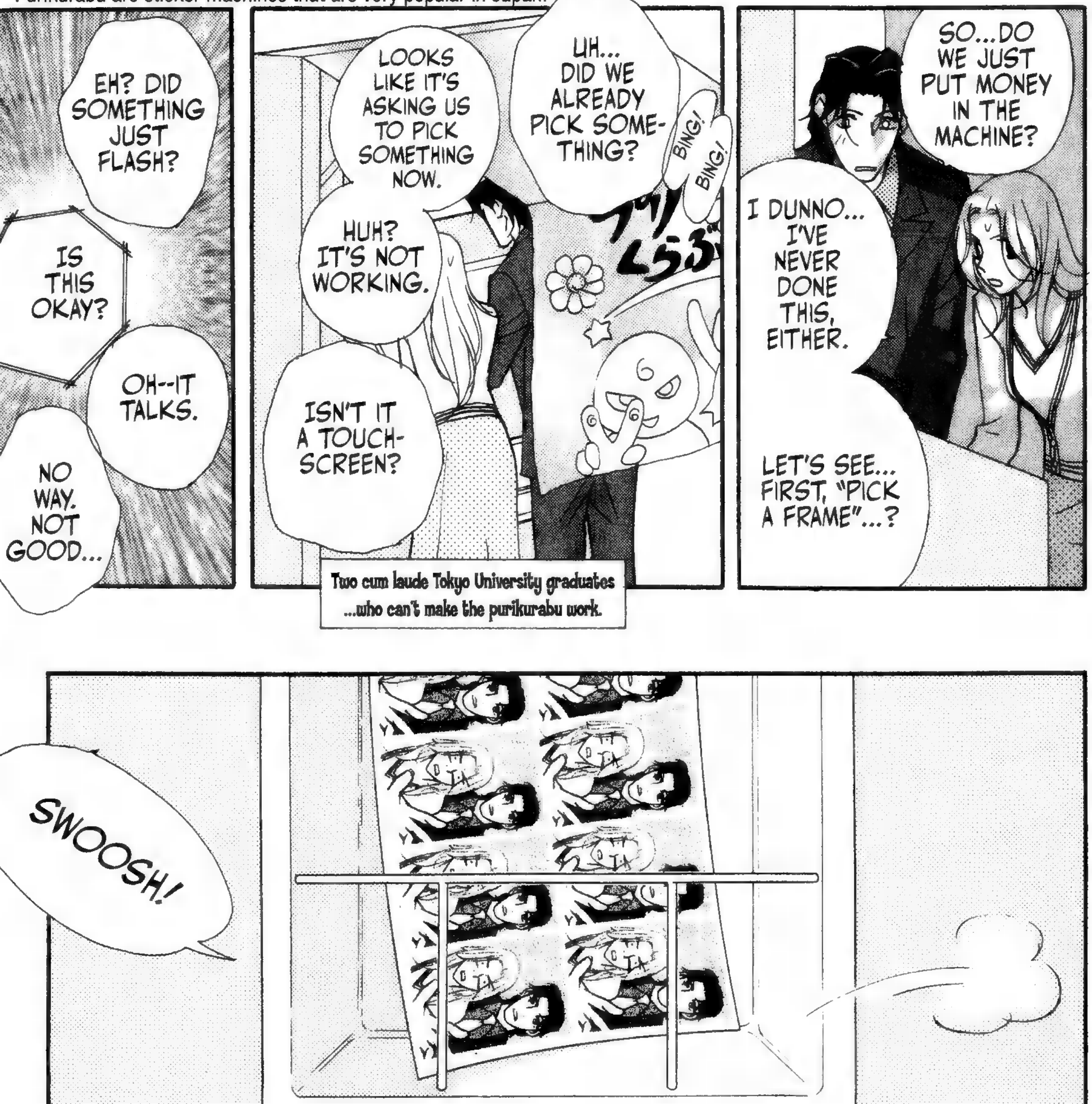
OH? YOU DON'T?!
WELL, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING. THE REASON I WAS SO POPULAR BACK THEN AND GOT SHINICHI* TO MARRY ME...
...IS THAT I PUT ALL MY EFFORT INTO LOOKING BEAUTIFUL EVERY DAY!!
IT'S THE SAME REASON YOU CAN'T PASS A TOKYO UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE EXAM ON LUCK ALONE!
ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ
* YURI'S HUSBAND, A PILOT FOR AN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE. HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE QUITE GOOD-LOOKING.
ON THE OTHER HAND...BACK THEN, YOU WERE REALLY...
WHY DID YOU COME TO A MATCHMAKING PARTY IN SUCH A DOWDY DRESS?!
Yuri.
AND I TOLD YOU TO TAKE OFF YOUR GLASSES--!
SO... WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?
READING, MOSTLY.
SAY SOMETHING BETTER, YOU DWEEB!
I SEE. SO...READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?
WELL, I JUST FINISHED TAKAAKI YOSHIMOTO ...
COULDN'T YOU'VE AT LEAST SAID *BANANA* YOSHIMOTO?!
YOU'LL SCARE HIM AWAY!
IT DOESN'T MATTER. LEAVE HER ALONE.
SUMIRE IS SUMIRE.

SUMIRE IS SNOBBY.
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN TOO COOL AND PASSIVE.
THAT ATTITUDE NEVER WORKS IN A REAL RELATIONSHIP.
SHE'S MAD AT US.
DOES THAT MEAN WE HIT THE MARK?
SEE? POPULARITY IS OVERRATED.
BESIDES, IF SHE GETS TOO POPULAR, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP ME ANYMORE!
THAT'S TRUE. AHA, HA, HA, HA!
UH, GUYS... EXCUSE ME.
......
WOW! THAT WAS MUCH BETTER THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE...
IT SURE WAS.
I ACTUALLY WANTED TO SEE "MUERTOS DE RISA."
MADONNA HAS FORESIGHT AFTER ALL...

THIS IS MY FIRST DATE WITH HASUMI SENPAI IN A REALLY LONG TIME.
THOUGH WE ONLY HAVE HALF A DAY.
DUE TO OUR CURRENT SHIFT SCHEDULE, WHEN I'M OFF, HE'S ON HIS NIGHT SHIFT.
SO WE CAN BARELY SEE EACH OTHER ALL DAY.
EXCUSE ME--GOTTA GO TO THE LADIES' ROOM.
I HAD NO IDEA I WAS GONNA END UP SNEAKING INTO THE BATHROOM FOR A CIGARETTE BREAK LIKE THIS...
NO SMOKING
YOU CAN DO IT.
ONLY TWO MORE HOURS OF PATIENCE!
EH...
...PATIENCE...?



*Purikurabu are sticker machines that are very popular in Japan.



Quite satisfied
NOW... WHERE SHOULD I STICK THIS...?
......
WHAT A HORRIBLE PICTURE.
YOU THINK?
WE STILL HAVE A LITTLE MORE TIME.
WHY DON'T WE GO SOME-WHERE WE CAN REST FOR A BIT?
EH?
WELL! THIS IS RELAXING, ISN'T IT?
DEAR GOD. PLEASE BRING BACK MY INNOCENCE...

CAN YOU MOVE A BIT MORE TO THE EDGE?
LIKE THIS?
OH!
SENPAI-- SOMEONE FROM WORK MIGHT SEE US!
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF HIBIYA...
I DON'T THINK SO.
BUT...
BESIDES, I DON'T CARE IF SOMEONE SEES US.
OFFICE RELATIONSHIPS AREN'T PROHIBITED.
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE LATE...?
...HASUMI SENPAI?

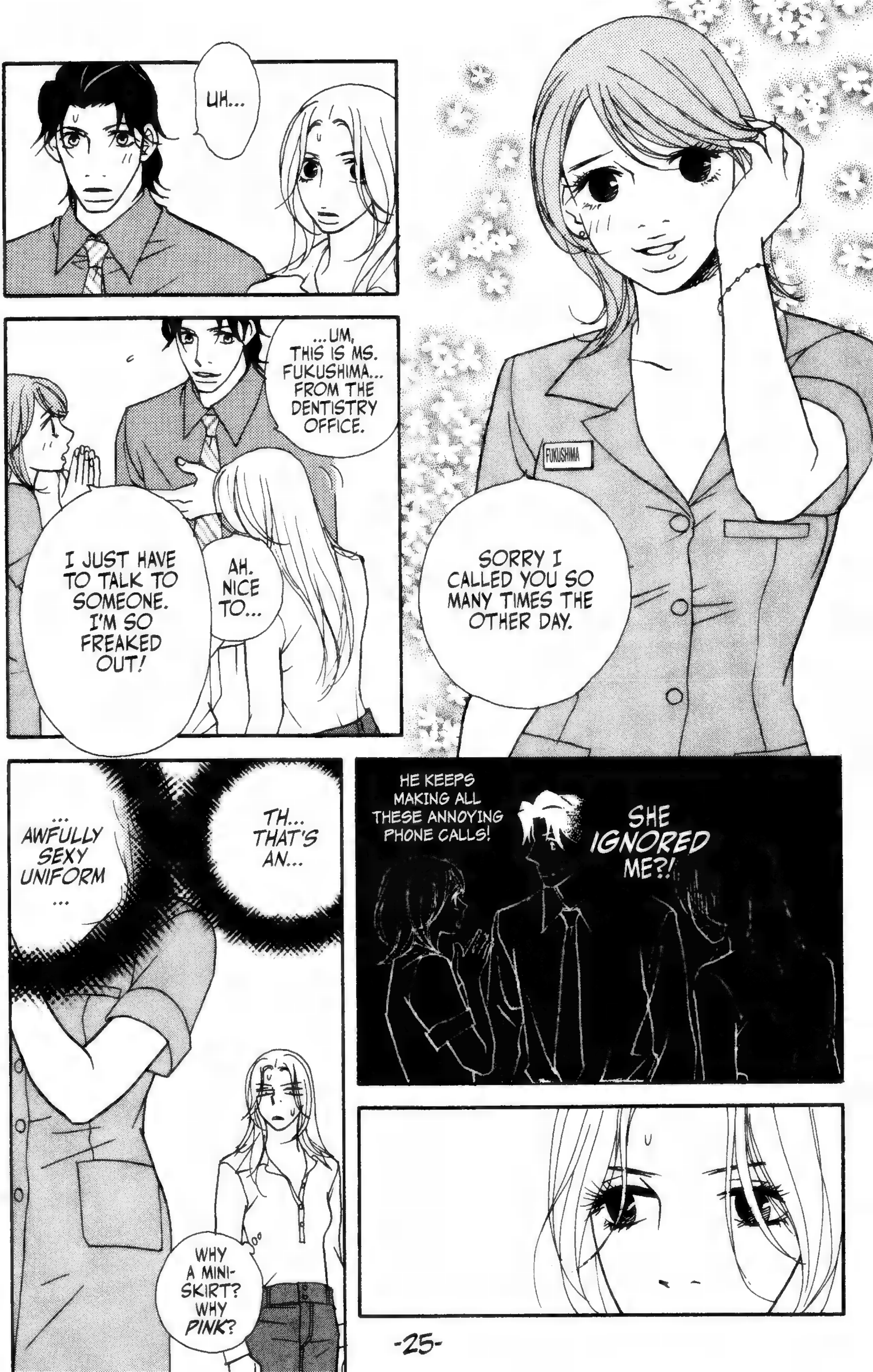
ZZZZ
OOPS...
...HE'S ASLEEP.
HE LOOKS KIND OF LIKE MOMO.
GOOD BOY... JUST KIDDING.
I FEEL SO CALM...
...JUST BEING WITH YOU.

SENPAI FEELS CALM AND RELAXED...
...WHEN HE'S AROUND ME...
I, ON THE OTHER HAND...
RING!
SORRY-- MY PHONE.
I WONDER IF IT'S FROM WORK.
RING!
SHIORI-CHAN
RECEIVING

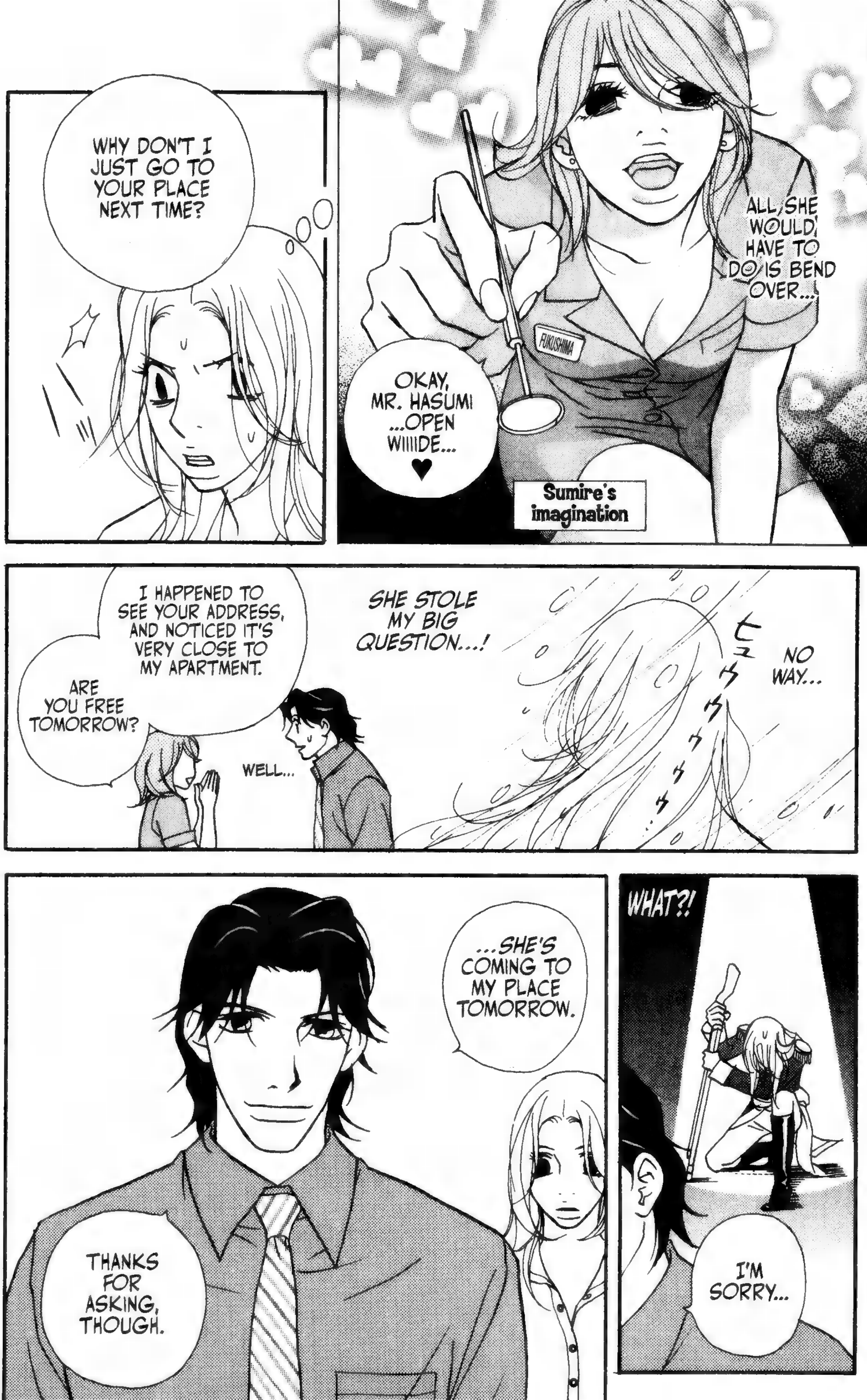
A... WOMAN...?!
AND HE CALLS HER "CHAN" ON HIS PHONE...?!
I--I WONDER WHO THIS COULD BE?
YOU DON'T KNOW?
SINCE IT'S REGISTERED IN YOUR PHONE, DOESN'T THAT MEAN IT'S SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
AH... WELL, THAT'S TRUE...
HELLO ...?
OH, MAN... THE WAY I WAS TALKING JUST NOW WAS LIKE I WAS CROSS-EXAMINING HIM.
...OH, IT'S YOU!
I WAS WONDERING WHO IT WAS...
...SO WHO IS IT?
EH? REALLY?
I SEE... UH-HUH...
NO... THAT'S NOT GOOD.
THAT'S RIGHT... YES.
5 minutes have elapsed.
LOOK, I GOTTA GO. NEXT TIME I'LL HAVE MORE TIME TO LISTEN.
YEAH. I'M SORRY, BUT I'M WORKING THE NIGHT SHIFT TODAY.
15 minutes have elapsed.

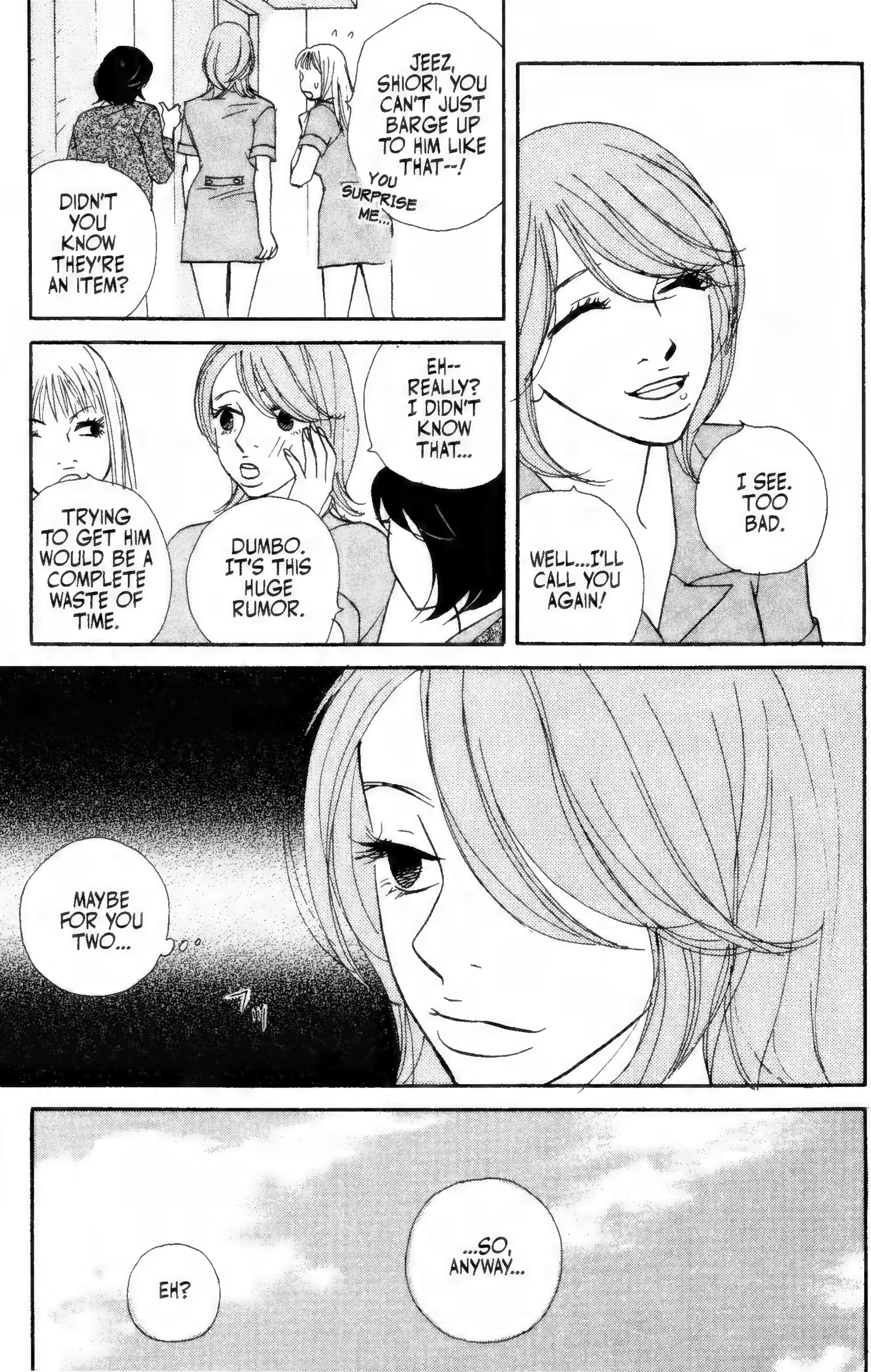
I'M SORRY. SHE WOULDN'T LET ME GO.
NO PROBLEM. DON'T WORRY.
IT WAS JUST THIS GIRL FROM THE CLINIC.
CLICK
THE CLINIC ...
THAT SINGLES PARTY!
I MET HER AT THE PARTY THE OTHER NIGHT.
SHE MUST HAVE REGISTERED HERSELF INTO MY CELL PHONE.
I DIDN'T EVEN REMEMBER HER FIRST NAME.
SHE BROKE UP WITH HER BOYFRIEND RECENTLY.
AND SHE'S SCARED BECAUSE HE'S STALKING HER NOW.
I SEE...
SINCE THAT'S AN ACTUAL CRIME, I THOUGHT I SHOULD AT LEAST LISTEN TO HER STORY.
SOUNDS LIKE...
...A MADE-UP STORY TO ME.
THAT WAS NICE OF YOU...
YOU DON'T USUALLY TALK ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT WITH SOMEONE YOU JUST MET, DO YOU?
THAT'S TRUE. BUT THE POINT IS, YOUR ENEMY IS A FAR BETTER PLAYER THAN YOU ARE.
MY ENEMY... NO WAY.
DO YOU HONESTLY THINK YOU CAN KEEP YOUR MAN, WITH WHOM YOU'VE ONLY HAD SEX ONCE--AND THAT WAS EIGHT YEARS AGO--AWAY FROM SOMEONE LIKE THAT?
I MEAN, DON'T YOU THINK SO? HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM ABOUT THIS?

ANYWAY, WHY DON'T YOU EVER ASK HIM OUT OR SEDUCE HIM?
YOU'RE SO PASSIVE.
SENPAI? ARE YOU OFF TOMORROW?
AH-- YES.
OH, REALLY? DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS...?
NONE IN PARTICULAR. WHY?
AH...WELL, I'M STILL OWED A DAY OFF THIS MONTH...
...AND I WAS THINKING TO TAKE A DAY OFF TOMORROW ...
...SO, UH...
"CAN I COME TO YOUR HOUSE?"
WHY CAN'T I JUST SAY THAT?!
?
AH...
...I MEAN...
OH, MR. HASUMI--! ♥

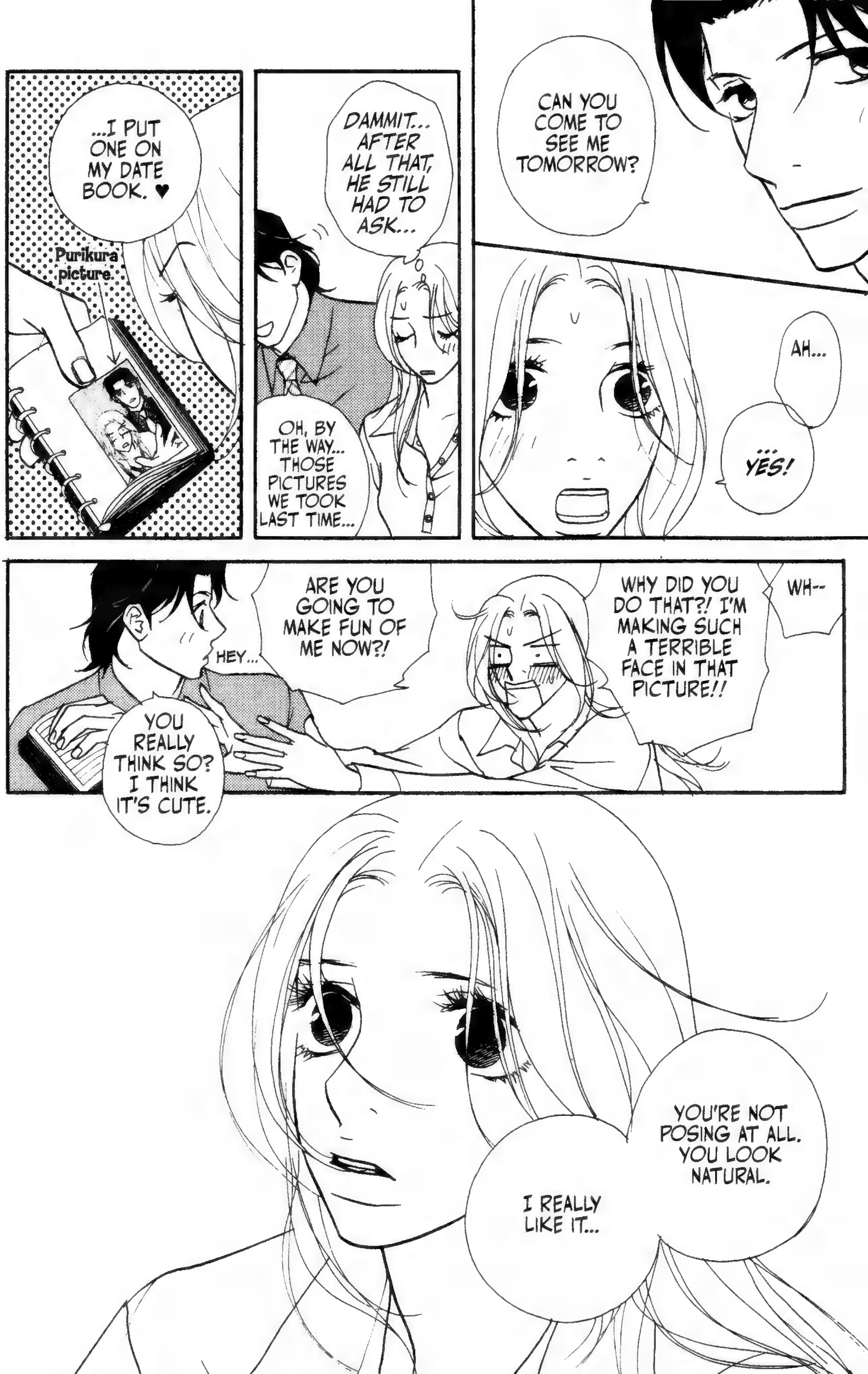


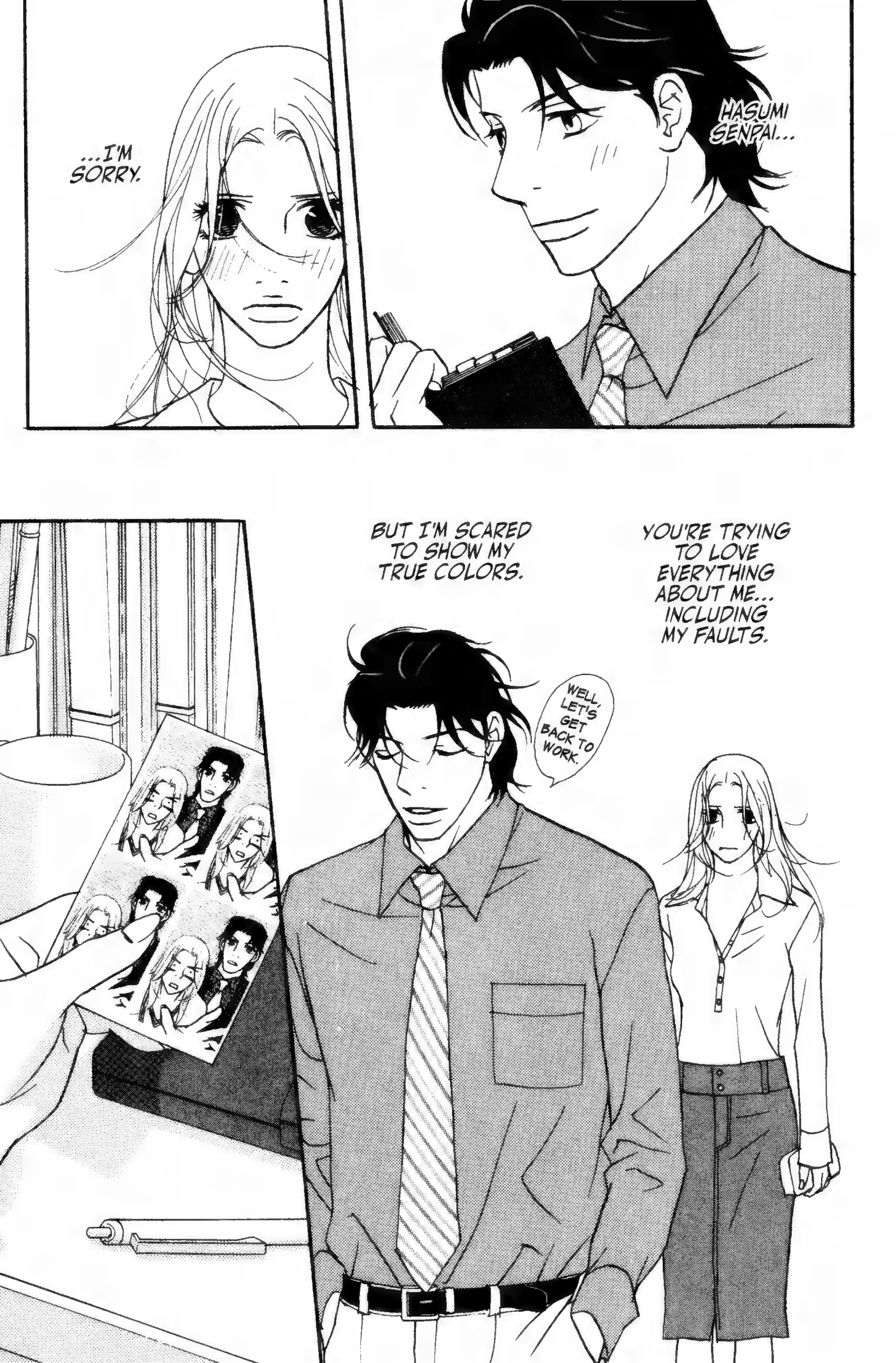
UH...
...UM, THIS IS MS. FUKUSHIMA... FROM THE DENTISTRY OFFICE.
AH. NICE TO...
I JUST HAVE TO TALK TO SOMEONE. I'M SO FREAKED OUT!
SORRY I CALLED YOU SO MANY TIMES THE OTHER DAY.
FUKUSHIMA
TH... THAT'S AN...
... AWFULLY SEXY UNIFORM ...
WHY A MINI-SKIRT? WHY PINK?
HE KEEPS MAKING ALL THESE ANNOYING PHONE CALLS!
SHE IGNORED ME?!

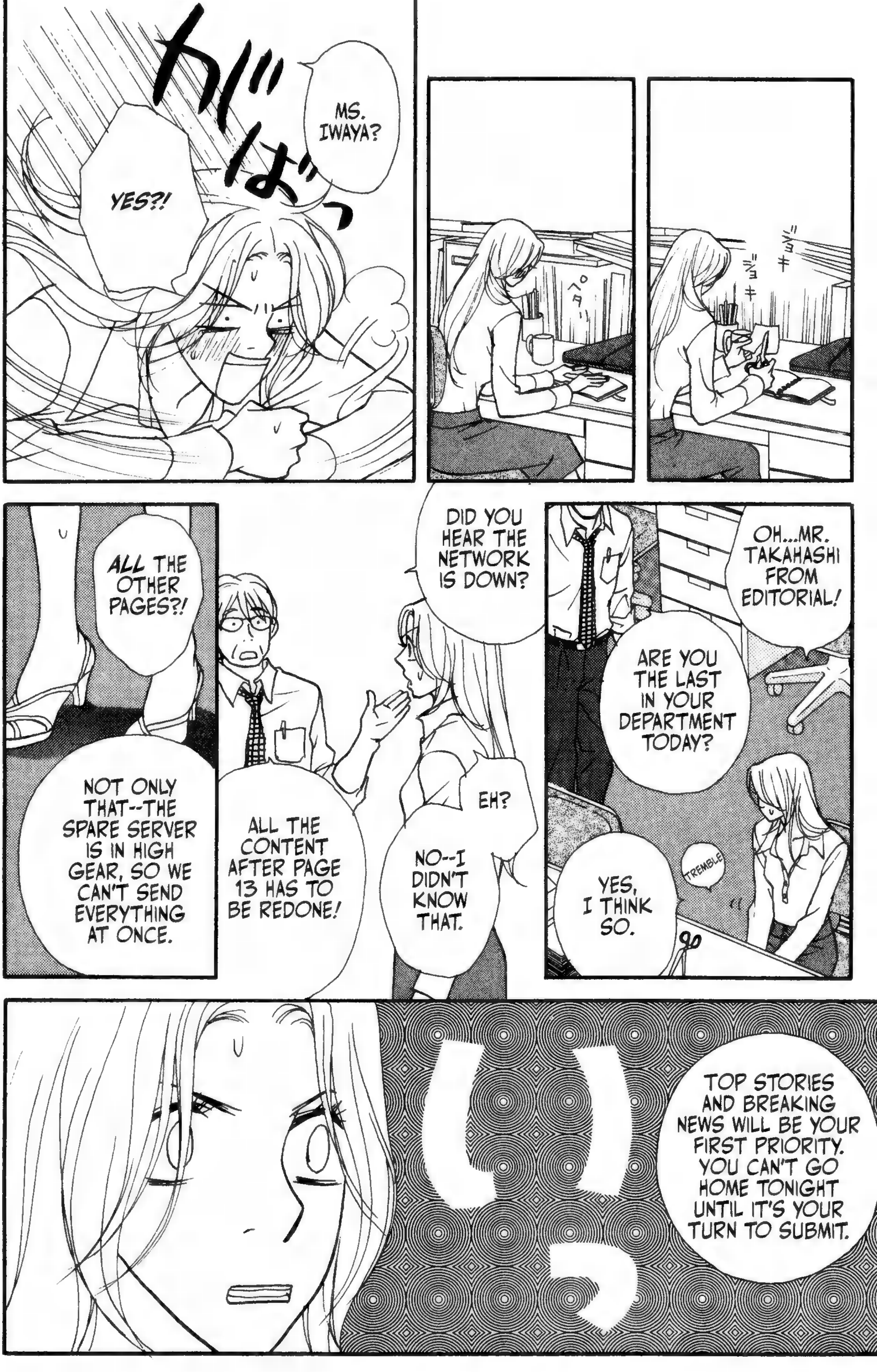

ALL, SHE WOULD HAVE TO DO IS BEND OVER...
FUKUSHIMA
OKAY, MR. HASUMI ...OPEN WIIIIDE... ♥
Sumire's imagination
WHY DON'T I JUST GO TO YOUR PLACE NEXT TIME?
NO WAY...
ヒュウウウウウウ…
SHE STOLE MY BIG QUESTION...!
I HAPPENED TO SEE YOUR ADDRESS, AND NOTICED IT'S VERY CLOSE TO MY APARTMENT.
ARE YOU FREE TOMORROW?
WELL...
WHAT?!
I'M SORRY...
...SHE'S COMING TO MY PLACE TOMORROW.
THANKS FOR ASKING, THOUGH.



I SEE. TOO BAD.
WELL...I'LL CALL YOU AGAIN!
JEEZ, SHIORI, YOU CAN'T JUST BARGE UP TO HIM LIKE THAT--!
YOU SURPRISE ME...
DIDN'T YOU KNOW THEY'RE AN ITEM?
EH-- REALLY? I DIDN'T KNOW THAT...
DUMBO. IT'S THIS HUGE RUMOR.
TRYING TO GET HIM WOULD BE A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME.
MAYBE FOR YOU TWO...
...SO, ANYWAY...
EH?


CAN YOU COME TO SEE ME TOMORROW?
AH...
...YES!
DAMMIT... AFTER ALL THAT, HE STILL HAD TO ASK...
OH, BY THE WAY... THOSE PICTURES WE TOOK LAST TIME...
...I PUT ONE ON MY DATE BOOK. ♥
Purikura picture.
WH--
WHY DID YOU DO THAT?! I'M MAKING SUCH A TERRIBLE FACE IN THAT PICTURE!!
ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE FUN OF ME NOW?!
HEY...
YOU REALLY THINK SO? I THINK IT'S CUTE.
YOU'RE NOT POSING AT ALL. YOU LOOK NATURAL.
I REALLY LIKE IT...


HASUMI SENPAI...
...I'M SORRY.
YOU'RE TRYING TO LOVE EVERYTHING ABOUT ME... INCLUDING MY FAULTS.
BUT I'M SCARED TO SHOW MY TRUE COLORS.
WELL, LET'S GET BACK TO WORK.

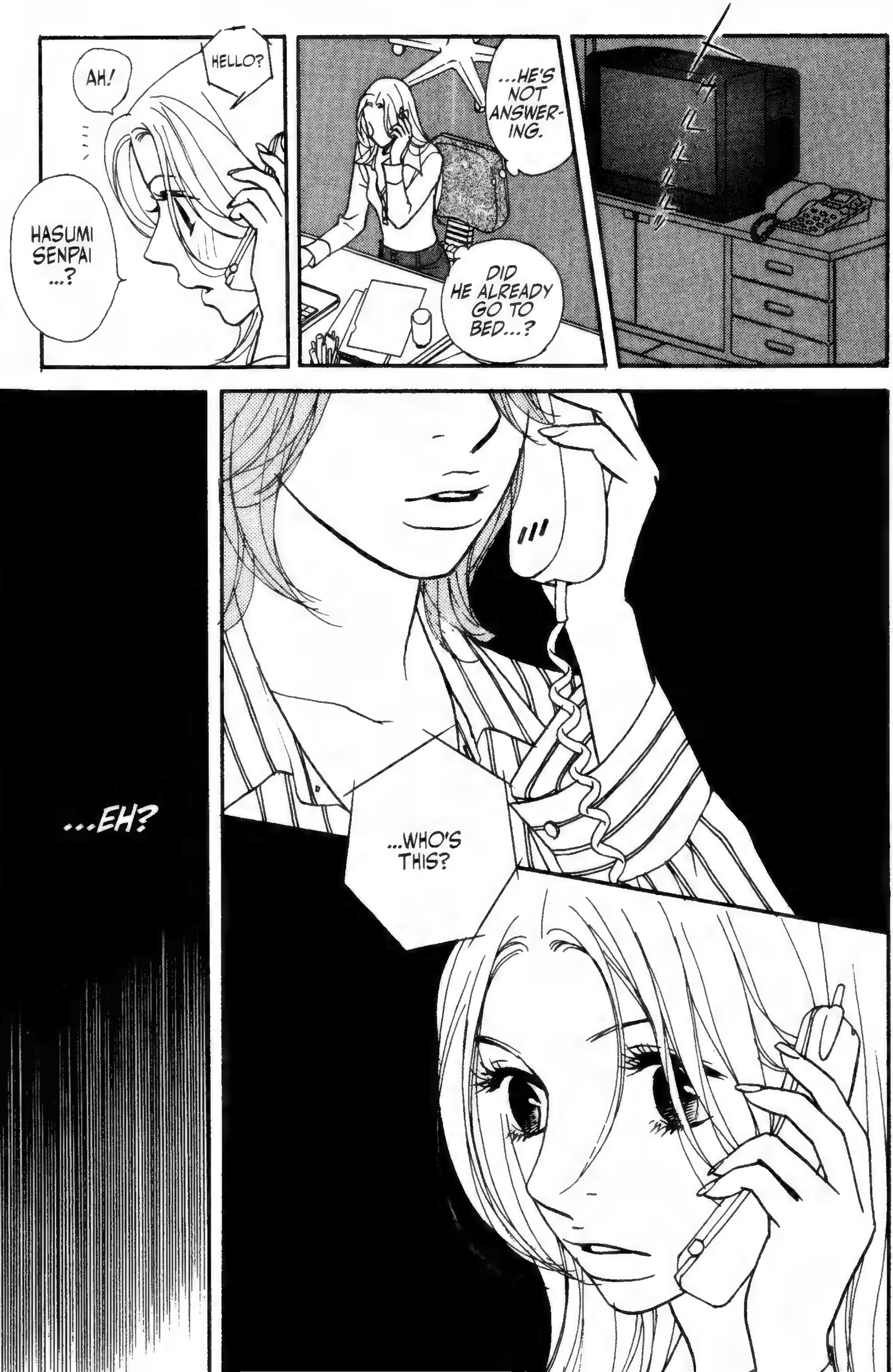

ジョキ ジョキ
ペタ
MS. IWAYA?
がばっ
YES?!
OH...MR. TAKAHASHI FROM EDITORIAL!
ARE YOU THE LAST IN YOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY?
TREMBLE
YES, I THINK SO.
DID YOU HEAR THE NETWORK IS DOWN?
EH?
NO--I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
ALL THE CONTENT AFTER PAGE 13 HAS TO BE REDONE!
ALL THE OTHER PAGES?!
NOT ONLY THAT--THE SPARE SERVER IS IN HIGH GEAR, SO WE CAN'T SEND EVERYTHING AT ONCE.
TOP STORIES AND BREAKING NEWS WILL BE YOUR FIRST PRIORITY. YOU CAN'T GO HOME TONIGHT UNTIL IT'S YOUR TURN TO SUBMIT.

WELL, STOVE'S ALL CLEAN.
GIRLS ALWAYS WANT TO CHECK OUT THE KITCHEN. BETTER CLEAN THE REST OF IT, TOO.
......?
WHO COULD IT BE THIS LATE...?
I'M SORRY... I KNOW I'M ALWAYS GIVING YOU TROUBLE.
BUT HE WAS WAITING FOR ME WHEN I GOT HOME... I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS TO COME HERE.
I SEE...

LOOK, I'LL TAKE YOU HOME SOON.
I DOUBT HE'S THERE ANYMORE.
NO!
I'M SCARED TO BE ALONE IN MY ROOM.
PLEASE-- LET ME STAY HERE TONIGHT!
EH?
PLEASE...
...I'M AFRAID HE'LL KILL ME...
EHH...
RRRR
RRR
THE PHONE USED ONLY BY MOMO--A.K.A. "MOMO PHONE."
AIR FILTRATION RESEARCH DEPARTMENT, SPECIALIST GOUDA SPEAKING...
MOMO? IT'S ME.

I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO COME HOME TONIGHT. SO... DON'T WAIT UP FOR ME. JUST GO TO BED.
EHH--? AGAIN--?
IT'S WORK. I HAVE NO CHOICE.
BUT I'M LONELY AND HUNGRYYYY! I'M GONNA DIIIIE!
LOOK, I PUT 1,000 YEN ($8.90) IN THE USUAL PLACE. JUST PICK UP SOME FOOD FOR YOUR DINNER.
SORRY-- I GOTTA GO.
CLICK
...I'M GONNA BE BAD.
I'M GONNA DO SOMETHING THAT YOU ALWAYS TELL ME NOT TO DO--!
FIRST, I WILL JUMP INTO YOUR BED WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION!
YAHOOOO!
THOUGH...
...IT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING UNLESS SUMIRE IS HERE...

HER TEETH MARKS...
UH-OH...
...I'M GETTING EXCITED OVER HER LEFTOVER CIGARETTE.
I REALLY AM A BAD KID...


...HE'S NOT ANSWERING.
DID HE ALREADY GO TO BED...?
HELLO?
AH!
HASUMI SENPAI ...?
...WHO'S THIS?
...EH?

...THE LINE IS BUSY...
...AND SHE DIDN'T ANSWER HER HOME PHONE, EITHER.
WHAT SHOULD I DO? I'VE ACTUALLY BECOME HOMELESS!
LET'S SEE...HER LIGHTS ARE ON...
I SHOULD RING THE INTERCOM.
CLUNK

YOU...
PUSH...
......
OOPS!
STUPID ME--DIALING A WRONG NUMBER SO LATE AT NIGHT!
I JUST PANICKED AND HUNG UP THE PHONE. WHO KNOWS IF THAT WAS HASUMI'S PLACE?
あはっ

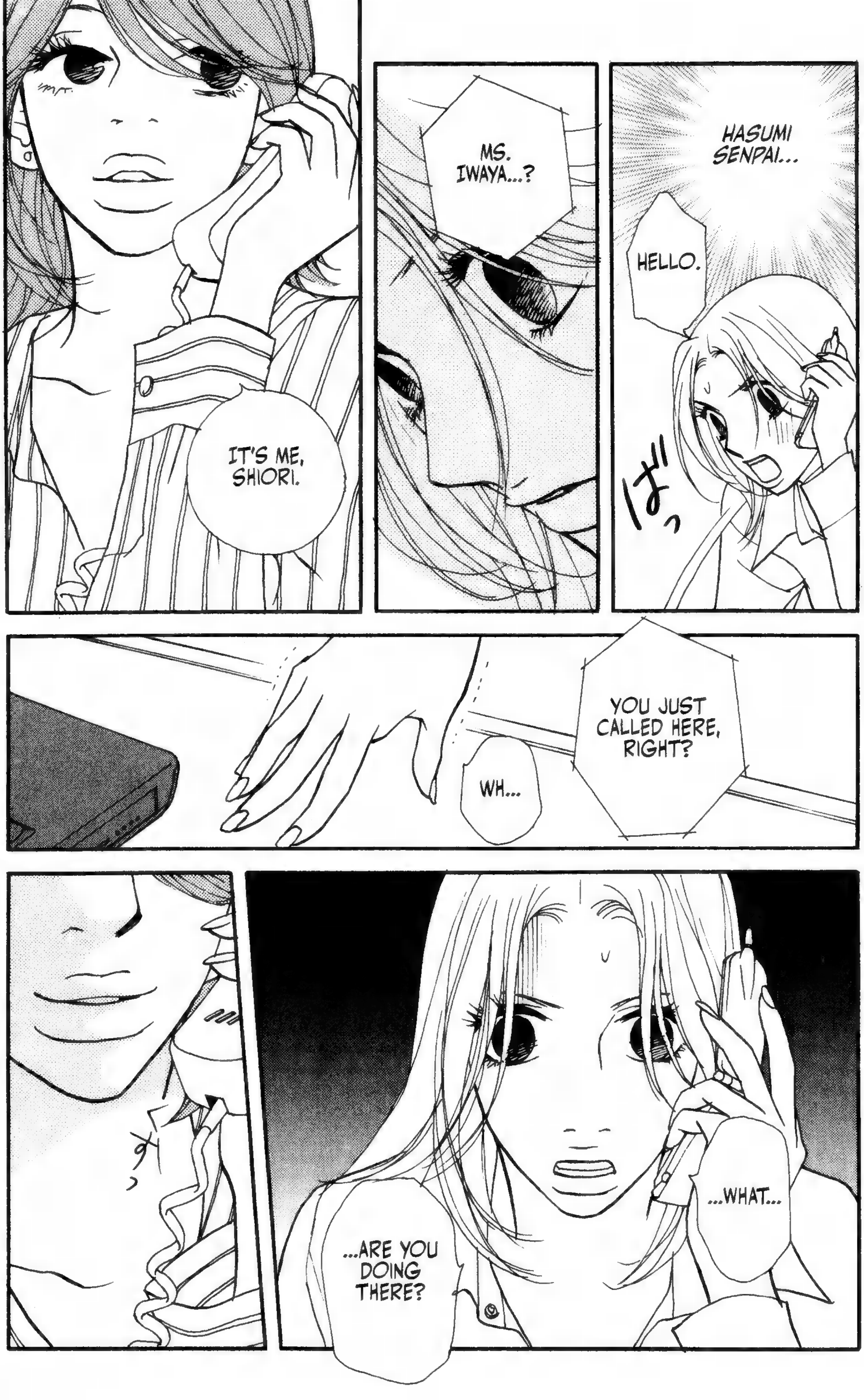
[REDIAL]
(1)
FRI, MAY 25 00:07
HASUMI HOME
035XXXXXXX
MAIL <MENU> I-MODE
WAIT A SEC...I USED MY PHONE BOOK, SO HOW COULD I HAVE GOTTEN A WRONG NUMBER...?
EVEN WHEN I PRESS REDIAL, I STILL GET HASUMI SENPAI'S NUMBER...
WHO'S THIS?
And the night is far from over...

RULE 12: EXPRESSING YOUR FEELINGS IN WORDS
KIMIWA PET
IN JEALOUSY STORM
R R R R

TO BE HONEST, THIS IS REALLY EXCITING.
YOU'RE ...
ARE YOU SUNEO HONEKAWA?
IS HE TRYING TO BE FUNNY OR JUST NATURALLY AIRHEADED?
I'M TAKESHI GOUDA.
AH, RIGHT-- TAKESHI.
WELL...

WELL... SHOULD I SAY?
SUMIRE ISN'T HOME YET.
THIS IS RIGHT OUT OF A SOAP OPERA.
EVERY-THING WILL DEPEND ON MY EXCUSE AND ATTITUDE.
......
A GIRL...
...AT HASUMI SENPAI'S HOUSE...?
IT MUST BE HIS YOUNGER... OR OLDER... SISTER...
...ALTHOUGH COME TO THINK OF IT, HE ONLY HAS A YOUNGER BROTHER...
AND THAT VOICE...

I'LL JUST CALL ONE MORE TIME TO D@UBLE-CHECK.
BUT... WHAT IF...
NO!!
IT MUST HAVE BEEN HIS VERY YOUNG-VOICED MOTHER!!
HE SAID SHE LIKED AYUMI HAMAZAKI!
ぶん
ぶん
SORRY I CALLED YOU SO MANY TIMES THE OTHER DAY.
Shiori: angel in a pink nurse uniform.
WHOA!
RING!
RING!
RING!
RING RING RING!



HASUMI SENPAI...
HELLO.
ばっ
MS. IWAYA...?
IT'S ME, SHIORI.
YOU JUST CALLED HERE, RIGHT?
WH...
...WHAT...
...ARE YOU DOING THERE?

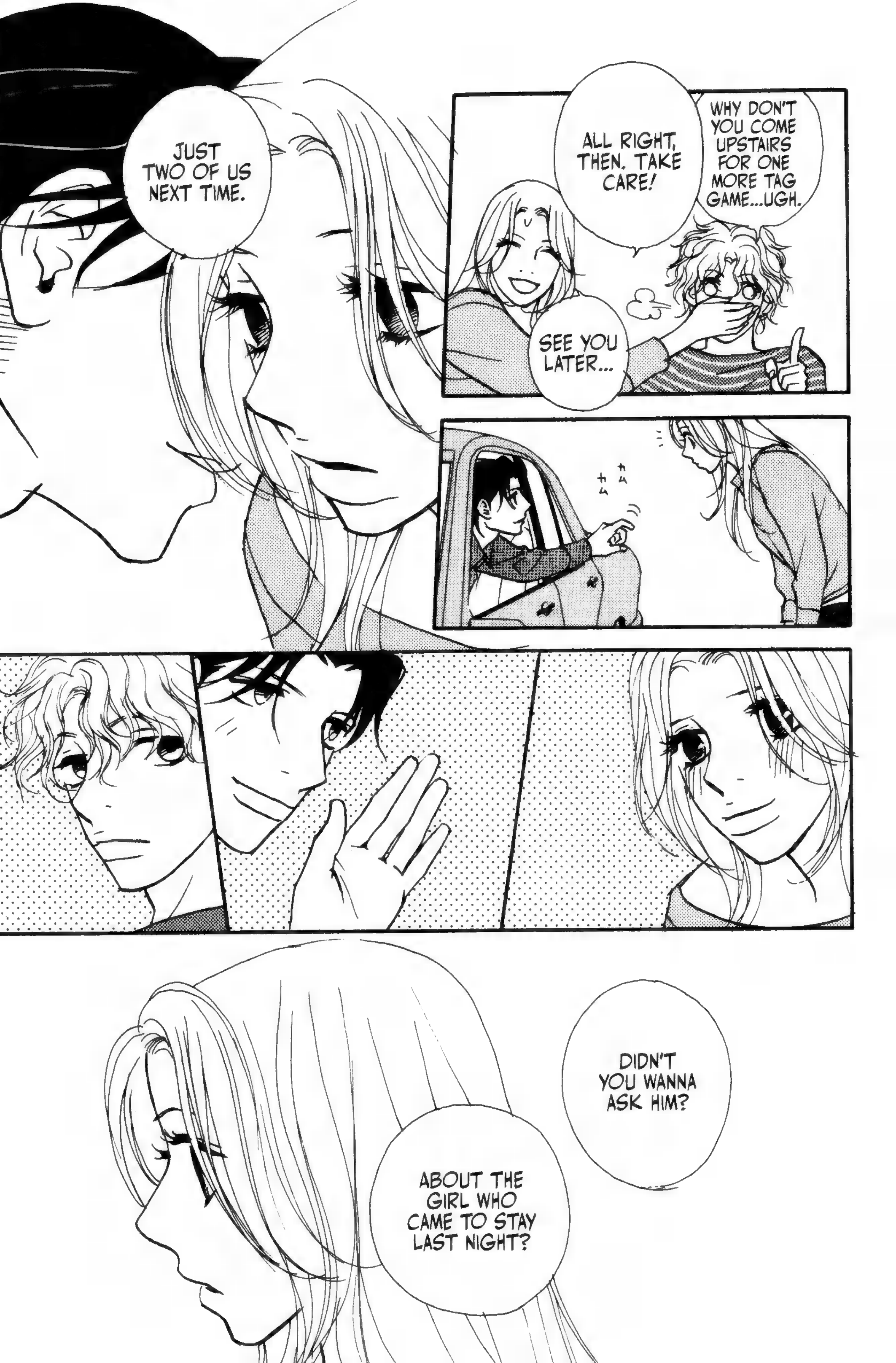
I'M STAYING HERE. KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
OR SHOULD I EXPLAIN IT TO YOU IN DETAIL?
CLICK!
......
SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO MY EXPLANATION.
BZZZ
BZZZ
"I'M STAYING HERE."

I WANT TO ASK HASUMI SENPAI ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON...
...BUT I DON'T HAVE THE GUTS TO LISTEN TO HIS EXCUSE.
SEE YOU TOMORROW.
SUCH UNCONTROLLABLE FEELINGS.
JEALOUSY... ANXIETY... ALL THESE UGLY FEELINGS IN MY MIND...
...I DON'T WANT HIM TO SEE THEM.

WELCOME HOME!
WOW-- YOU'RE GOOD, TAKESHI!
ONLY 'CAUSE I PLAY THIS SO MUCH.
YOU WIN!
A MIRAGE ...?
HEY--WHAT DO YOU SAY WE TRY POPOLOCROIS AGAIN?
FINE BY ME...YOU'LL BE CRYIN' INTO YOUR CONTROLLER AS USUAL, HASUMI.
UM... EXCUSE ME...
SUMIRE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE, PLAYING OUR PLAYSTATION.
OH, AND WHAT KIND OF UNDERWEAR YOU WEAR: BOXERS OR BRIEFS?
I DON'T CARE ABOUT HIS UNDERWEAR!
SHE DOESN'T CARE!!
SHE DOESN'T CARE...?
SIR!
NO! I MEAN...
SORRY I CAME OVER WITHOUT ASKING.
A FRIEND... CAME TO STAY AT MY PLACE ALL OF SUDDEN...

SO SINCE I KIND OF LOST MY PLACE TO SLEEP, I CAME OVER HERE.
I RAN INTO TAKESHI DOWNSTAIRS AND HE LET ME IN.
"A FRIEND"... YOU DON'T MENTION THAT IT'S MS. FUKUSHIMA.
IS THAT BECAUSE YOU DON'T WANT ME TO WORRY...?
OH--HASUMI BOUGHT SOME PUDDINGS FOR DESSERT, TOO!
RIGHT THIS WAY!
KITCHEN
Confidential
MY PARENTS' HOME BURNED DOWN IN A FIRE, SO I'M STAYING WITH MY COUSIN--THAT'S YOU--FOR A WHILE.
OH, AND MOMO, YOUR DOG, IS IN THE ANIMAL HOSPITAL FOR HER OBESITY PROBLEM.
SOUNDS A LITTLE LIKE A LAME EXCUSE--BUT IT'S COOL.
OH, MS. IWAYA--DON'T WORRY ABOUT US. YOU GO ON AHEAD TO BED!
EH...
YEAH, GO ON.
HASUMI AND I WILL SHARE THE LOFT SPACE TO SLEEP!
RIGHT! ♥
......
THE NEXT DAY...
LOOKS LIKE A NICE DAY TODAY!
ONCE WE WAKE UP FULLY... LET'S GO SOMEWHERE!

YOU MEAN-- THE THREE OF US?
HASUMI, WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE KIND OF RICE BALL?
I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT MS. FUKUSHIMA.
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BRING HER UP...
MS. IWAYA-- YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?
EH?
OH, YES-- I'M FINE. THANKS.
SHE'S UPSET THAT YOU DIDN'T SNEAK INTO HER BED LAST NIGHT.
I PRETENDED TO SLEEP SO YOU COULD GO.
MO... TAKESHI... SHUT UP.
WELL... TODAY WAS FUN.
EH? ARE YOU LEAVING, HASUMI?

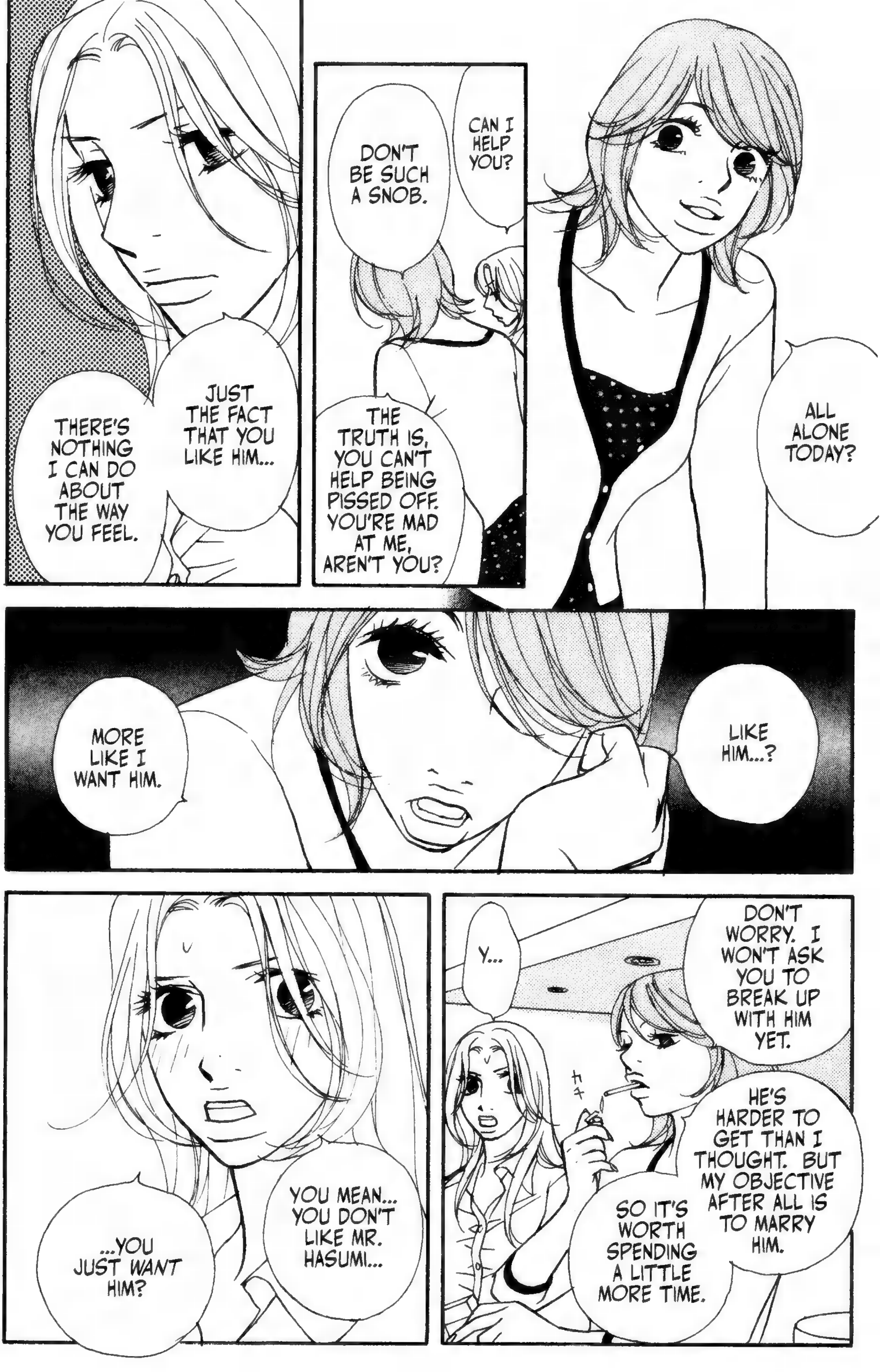

WHY DON'T YOU COME UPSTAIRS FOR ONE MORE TAG GAME...UGH.
ALL RIGHT, THEN. TAKE CARE!
SEE YOU LATER...
JUST TWO OF US NEXT TIME.
DIDN'T YOU WANNA ASK HIM?
ABOUT THE GIRL WHO CAME TO STAY LAST NIGHT?

EH...
YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?!
SURE DO.
THIS DENTAL HYGIENIST FROM THE COMPANY CLINIC ASKED TO STAY AT HIS PLACE 'CAUSE SHE WAS BEING CHASED BY SOME STALKER.
SHE TOLD HIM THE STALKER MIGHT KILL HER IF SHE WENT BACK HOME. SO HE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO LET HER STAY.
I...SEE...
SO.
HE ACTUALLY TOLD YOU THAT?
SURE... AND THAT'S NOT ALL.
HE TOLD ME HE LIKES GOMAKI FROM THE MORNING MUSUME. HIS EARWAX IS POWDERY. WHAT HE USUALLY THINKS ABOUT WHEN HE MASTURBATES. YOU KNOW. STUFF.
UGH! DON'T ASK HIM ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT!
HE ALSO TOLD ME ABOUT THE FIRST TIME HE MET YOU.
HE... DID? WHAT DID HE SAY?
THAT YOU WEREN'T ATTRACTIVE AT ALL.

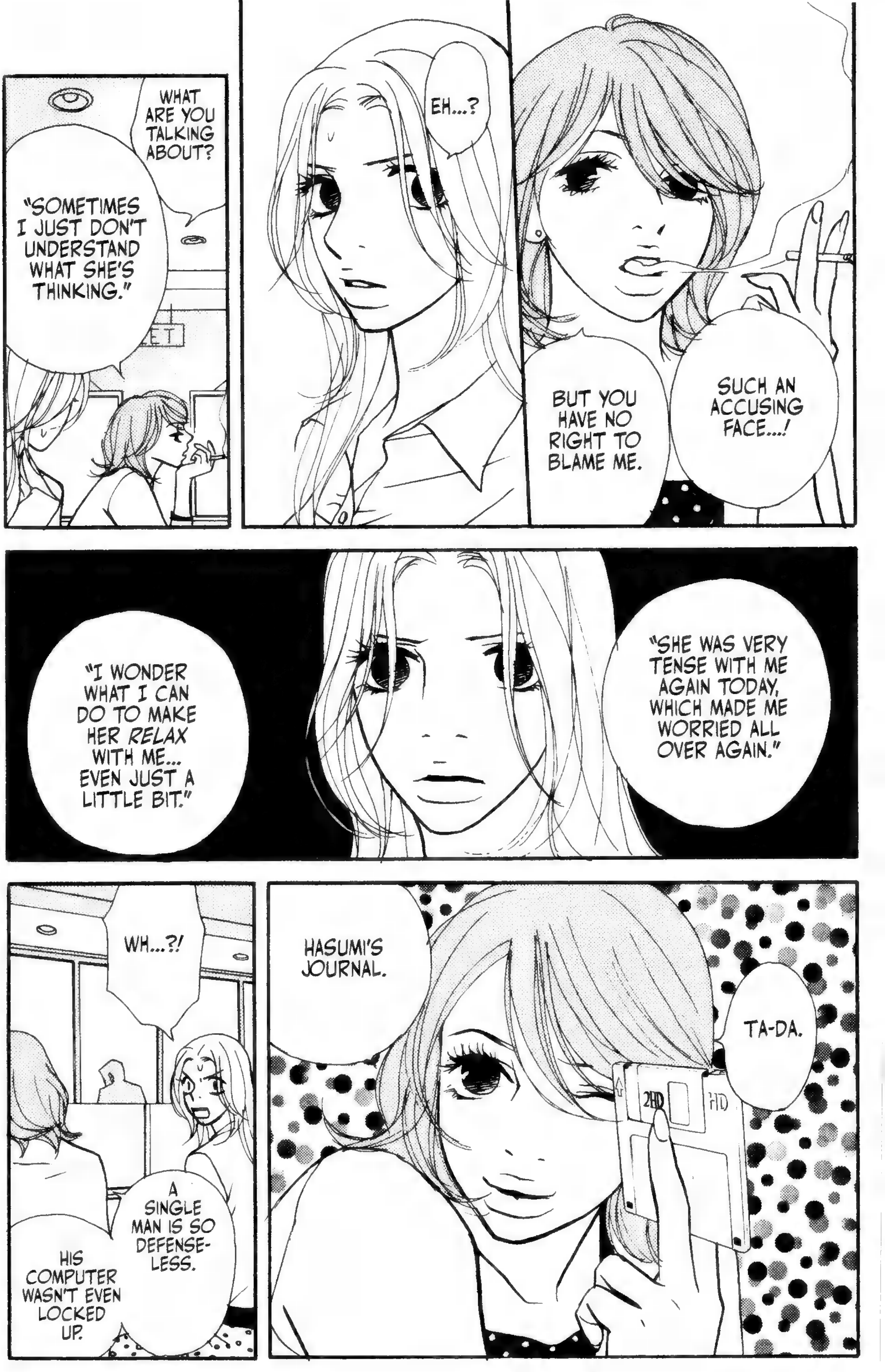
HASUMI SAID "BUT...WHEN SHE TOOK OFF HER GLASSES AT PRACTICES AND GAMES..."
"...I NOTICED HOW BEAUTIFUL SHE ACTUALLY WAS."
They used to be in the fencing club together.
YOU LOOK PRETTIER WITHOUT GLASSES, YOU KNOW.
AND WHEN I TOLD HER SO...
...EVEN HER EARS TURNED RED.
FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS, SHE NEVER TOOK OFF HER GLASSES.
WAS IT SOMETHING I SAID?
THEN, ONE DAY-- SUDDENLY--
ザワッ
UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

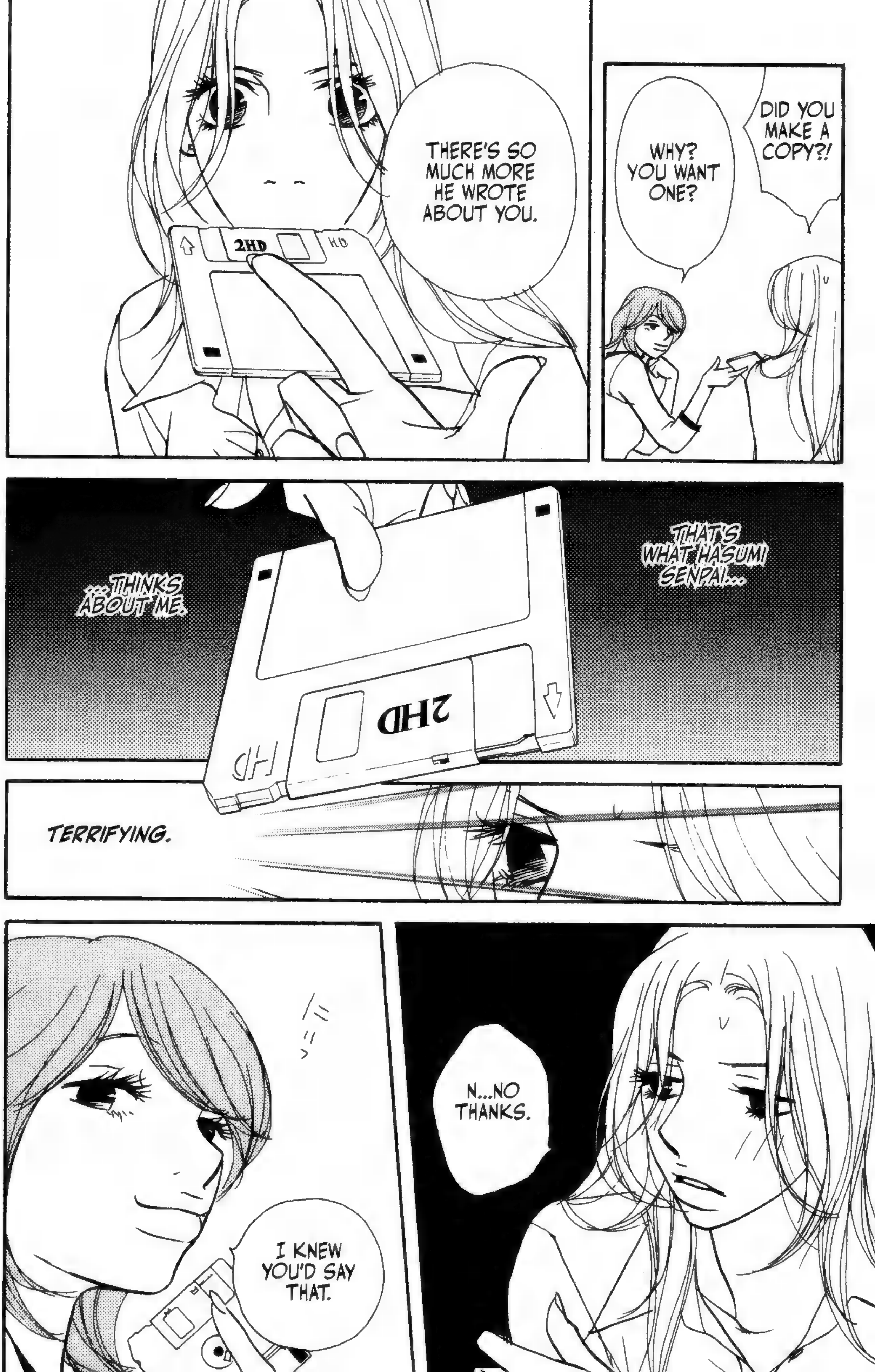
HE'S LIKED YOU EVER SINCE.
BUT HE COULDN'T SAY SO BACK THEN, BECAUSE HE HAD A GIRLFRIEND.
THUMP THUMP
SOUTHEASTERN ASIAN HISTORY
*Actually, Sumire was receiving intensive training from Yuri on how to become more attractive!!
LINE YOUR EYES ALL THE WAY TO THE CORNER!
AND DON'T SLOUCH!!
I WANTED TO CHANGE MYSELF FOR HIM.
I WANTED TO GET CLOSER TO HIM...EVEN IF ONLY FOR A LITTLE BIT.
EVEN AFTER I FOUND OUT HE HAD A GIRLFRIEND...

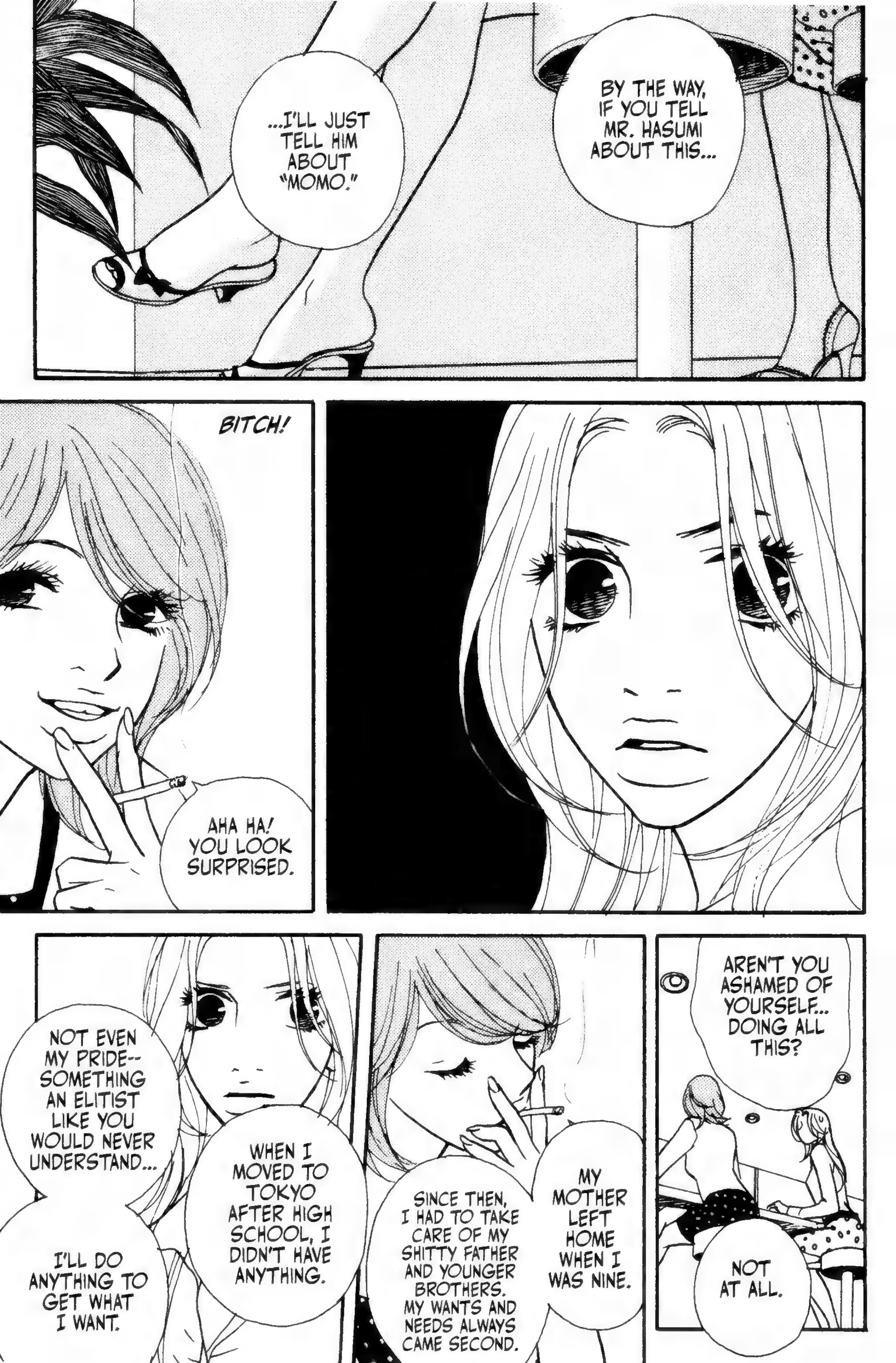
FOR SUCH A LONG TIME...
...I WANTED TO BE TOUCHED BY HIM.
I KNEW IT WOULD ONLY BE A ONE-NIGHT STAND.
BUT I DIDN'T REGRET SLEEPING WITH HIM.
BACK THEN, I WAS...
...JUST LIKE THAT GIRL.
TOTOLE

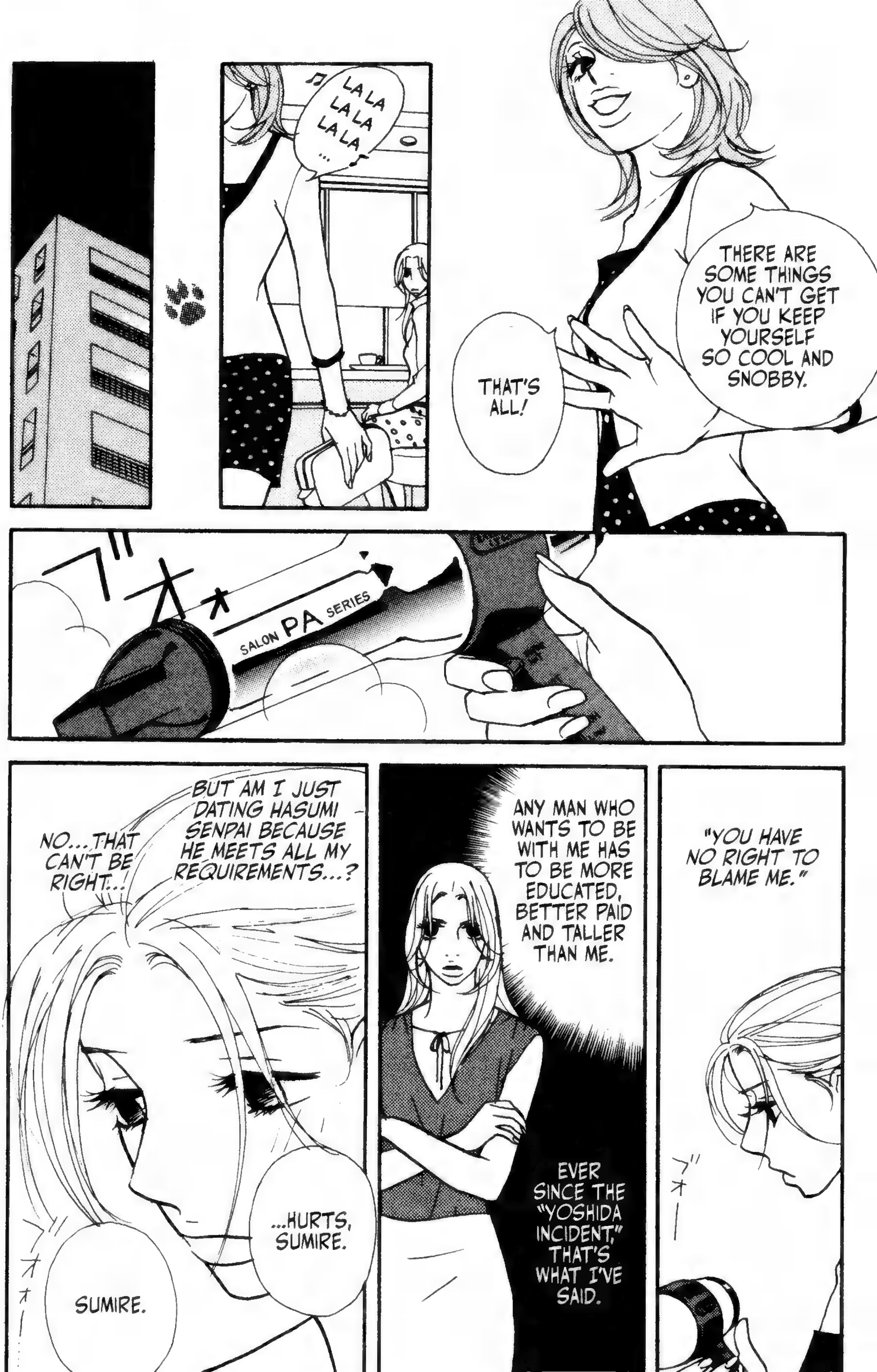


ALL ALONE TODAY?
CAN I HELP YOU?
DON'T BE SUCH A SNOB.
THE TRUTH IS, YOU CAN'T HELP BEING PISSED OFF. YOU'RE MAD AT ME, AREN'T YOU?
JUST THE FACT THAT YOU LIKE HIM...
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THE WAY YOU FEEL.
LIKE HIM...?
MORE LIKE I WANT HIM.
YOU MEAN... YOU DON'T LIKE MR. HASUMI...
...YOU JUST *WANT* HIM?
Y...
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T ASK YOU TO BREAK UP WITH HIM YET.
カチ
HE'S HARDER TO GET THAN I THOUGHT. BUT MY OBJECTIVE AFTER ALL IS TO MARRY HIM.
SO IT'S WORTH SPENDING A LITTLE MORE TIME.


SUCH AN ACCUSING FACE...!
BUT YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO BLAME ME.
EH...?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
"SOMETIMES I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT SHE'S THINKING."
"SHE WAS VERY TENSE WITH ME AGAIN TODAY, WHICH MADE ME WORRIED ALL OVER AGAIN."
"I WONDER WHAT I CAN DO TO MAKE HER *RELAX* WITH ME... EVEN JUST A LITTLE BIT."
TA-DA.
HASUMI'S JOURNAL.
2HD
WH...?!
A SINGLE MAN IS SO DEFENSELESS.
HIS COMPUTER WASN'T EVEN LOCKED UP.


THERE'S SO MUCH MORE HE WROTE ABOUT YOU.
DID YOU MAKE A COPY?!
WHY? YOU WANT ONE?
THAT'S WHAT HASUMI SENPAI...
...THINKS ABOUT ME.
TERRIFYING.
N...NO THANKS.
I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT.


BY THE WAY, IF YOU TELL MR. HASUMI ABOUT THIS...
...I'LL JUST TELL HIM ABOUT "MOMO."
BITCH!
AHA HA! YOU LOOK SURPRISED.
AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELF... DOING ALL THIS?
NOT AT ALL.
MY MOTHER LEFT HOME WHEN I WAS NINE.
SINCE THEN, I HAD TO TAKE CARE OF MY SHITTY FATHER AND YOUNGER BROTHERS. MY WANTS AND NEEDS ALWAYS CAME SECOND.
WHEN I MOVED TO TOKYO AFTER HIGH SCHOOL, I DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING.
NOT EVEN MY PRIDE--SOMETHING AN ELITIST LIKE YOU WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND...
I'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET WHAT I WANT.

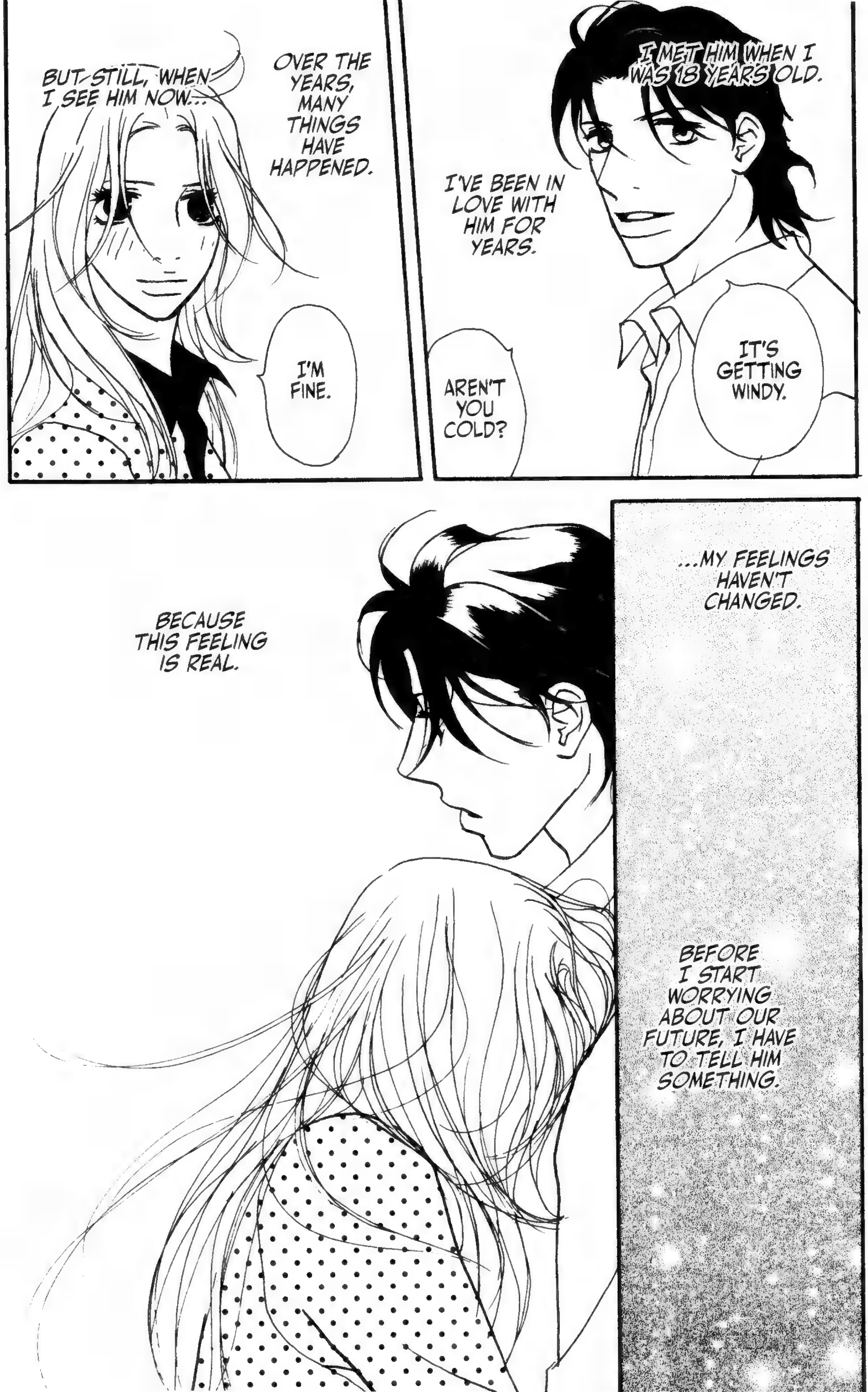

THERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN'T GET IF YOU KEEP YOURSELF SO COOL AND SNOBBY.
THAT'S ALL!
LA LA LA LA LA LA ...
SALON PA SERIES
"YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO BLAME ME."
ANY MAN WHO WANTS TO BE WITH ME HAS TO BE MORE EDUCATED, BETTER PAID AND TALLER THAN ME.
EVER SINCE THE "YOSHIDA INCIDENT," THAT'S WHAT I'VE SAID.
BUT AM I JUST DATING HASUMI SENPAI BECAUSE HE MEETS ALL MY REQUIREMENTS...?
NO... THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT...
...HURTS, SUMIRE.
SUMIRE.

TOO HOT!!!
EH?
OH!
I'M SORRY... I ZONED OUT.
I...I KNOW!
......
MOMO?
IS THERE SOMEONE YOU... LIKE?
YES.

...THAT PERSON...
...DO YOU SOMETIMES FEEL ANXIOUS ABOUT WHETHER YOU REALLY LIKE THAT PERSON...?
......
WHAT? AREN'T YOU SURE ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS?
......
...ALSO...
...YOUR FEELINGS OF LOVE FOR THAT PERSON.
HOW DO YOU EXPRESS THEM?
UM...
...WELL, FOR EXAMPLE...
I HOLD HER HAND.

I LOVE YOU.

HOW DARE YOU TOUCH...
HE'S JUST A PET!
I--I SEE. THANKS.
ONCE YOU TELL HIM YOU LOVE HIM, THE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU WILL JUST CLOSE UP.
THAT'S THE BEST WAY.
IT'S LIKE...
...YOU HAVE TO SAY THE MAGIC WORDS.
THE MAGIC WORDS...


I MET HIM WHEN I WAS 18 YEARS OLD.
I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH HIM FOR YEARS.
IT'S GETTING WINDY.
AREN'T YOU COLD?
I'M FINE.
OVER THE YEARS, MANY THINGS HAVE HAPPENED.
BUT STILL, WHEN I SEE HIM NOW...
...MY FEELINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED.
BEFORE I START WORRYING ABOUT OUR FUTURE, I HAVE TO TELL HIM SOMETHING.
BECAUSE THIS FEELING IS REAL.

THUMP
THIS IS REALLY EMBARRASSING...
...THROWING MYSELF INTO HIS ARMS.
...BUT IT SURE FEELS GOOD.
THUMP
THUMP
MS. IWAYA THREW HERSELF INTO MY ARMS...?
IS SHE SICK...?
NOT THAT I'M COMPLAINING. ♡
THUMP
I HAVE TO TELL HIM.

I...
I LOVE YOU!
RING!
RING! RING! RING!
I--I'M SORRY.
RING!
AH... OKAY... GO AHEAD...
DOKANA
SHIORI (LOVE)
RECEIVING
(LOVE)...
WHEN DID SHE DO THIS...?!

IF YOU DON'T EXPRESS YOUR FEELINGS IN WORDS, THE PERSON MIGHT NOT GET THE MESSAGE.

RULE 13: ON STRANGE WALKS

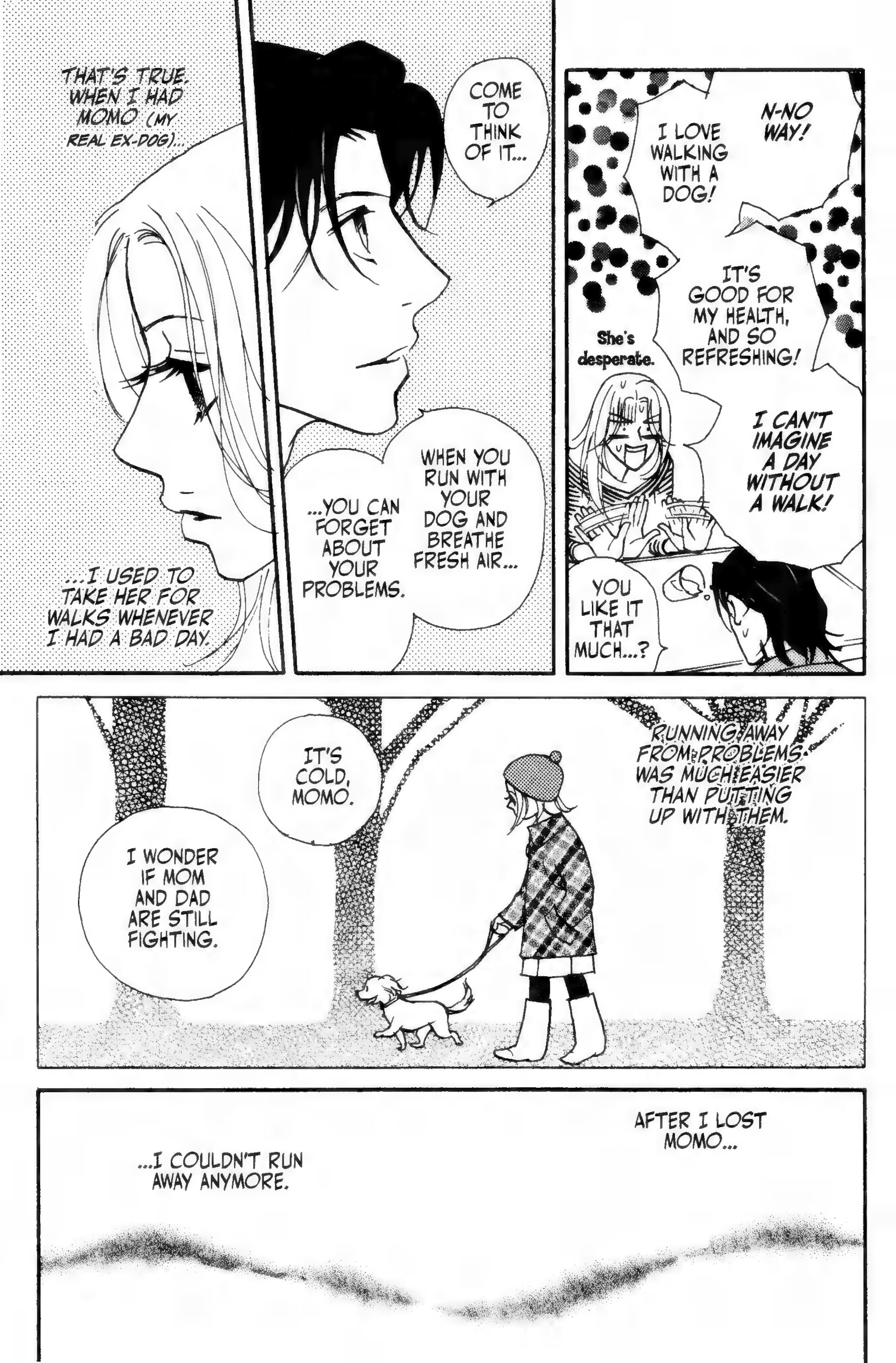
"YOU'D BE NOWHERE. WHY, YOU'RE ONLY A SORT OF THING IN HIS DREAM!"
FROM ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS BY LEWIS CARROLL.
EH?
ARRANGED MARRIAGE?!
IT WAS A PHONE CALL FROM SUMIRE'S OLDER SISTER.
RUMOR HAS IT SHE'S SEVERAL TIMES SCARIER THAN SUMIRE.
W-WAIT A SECOND, SISTER.
THIS IS SUCH SHORT NOTICE...

SUMIRE.
THIS IS AN ORDER FROM OUR GRANDFATHER.
"SHE'S ALREADY 28 AND HASN'T GOTTEN MARRIED. SHE'S STILL DOING THIS VULGAR WORK AS A NEWSPERSON."
...YOU KNOW HE TALKS ABOUT YOU LIKE THIS, DON'T YOU?
I'M STILL 27 UNTIL NEXT MONTH.
THAT'S NOT THE POINT.
YES, SIS.
YOU'D BETTER NOT THINK YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT FOR MUCH LONGER.
UNLESS...IS THERE A GENTLEMAN WHO'S PROPOSED MARRIAGE YET?
SO.
YOU TOLD HER ABOUT MR. HASUMI WITHOUT THINKING.

*A famous Brazilian martial arts family.

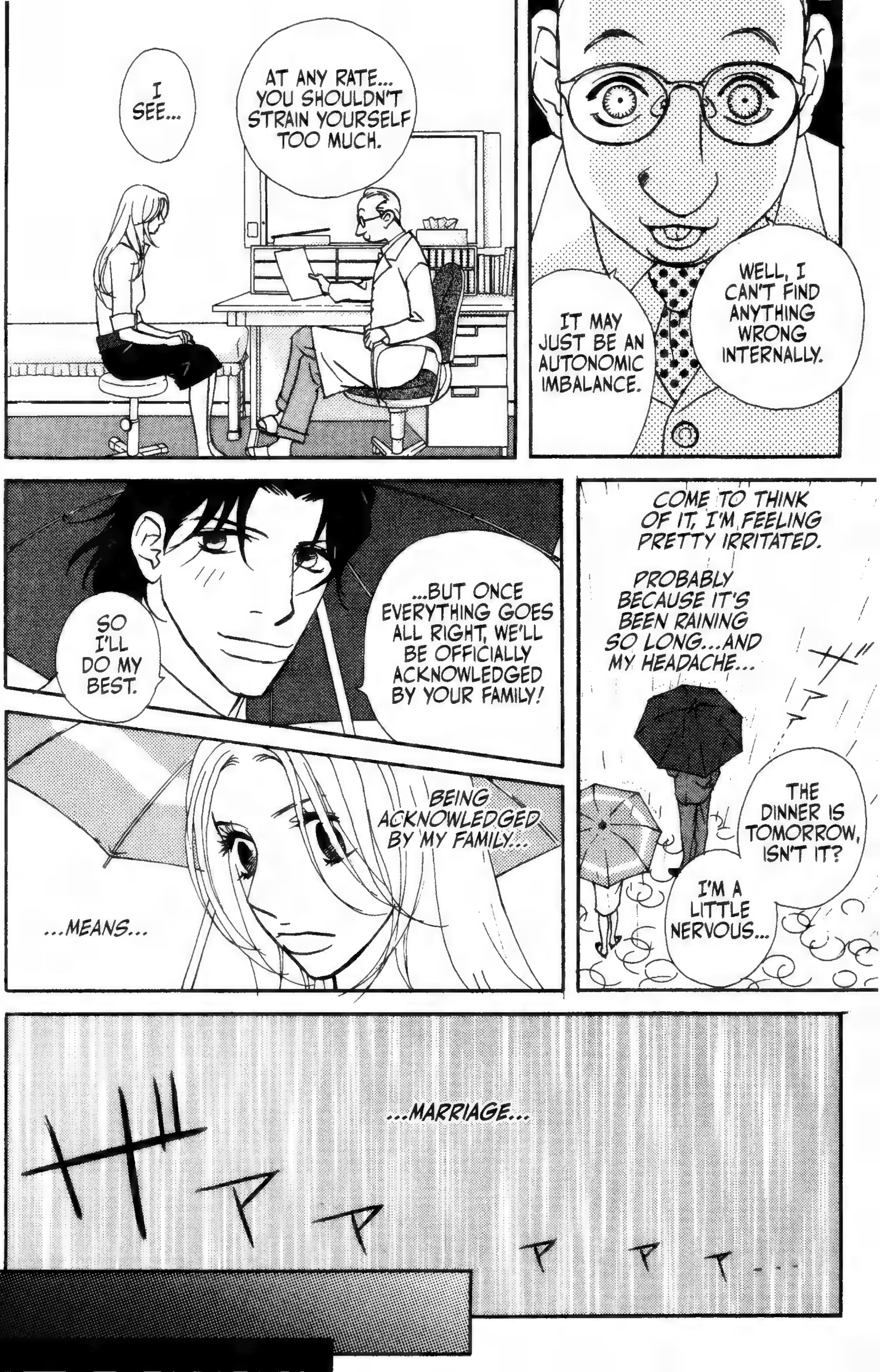
IF I BROUGHT HASUMI SENPAI TO ONE OF THOSE DINNERS...
IS YOUR FAMILY UPSCALE? WHAT WAS YOUR EDUCATION? WHERE ARE YOU FROM? WHAT DO YOU DO?
WHAT A NICE GENTLEMAN! WHEN SHALL WE HOLD THE ENGAGEMENT PARTY?
IT'S BEST TO START PLANNING A WEDDING EARLY! DO YOU THINK SEVEN DRESSES WILL BE ENOUGH FOR THE BRIDE?
Aunt A
Grand-pa
Aunt B
AND ON TOP OF ALL THAT...
Aunt C
WE'D BETTER DOUBLE CHECK IF HE CAN MAKE YOU PREGNANT!
THIS IS FOR YOUR SPERM SAMPLE!
ACTUALLY... I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF YOUR FAMILY DID DO THOSE KINDS OF THINGS.
IS THIS TRUE?
SADLY... YES.
BESIDES, HASUMI SENPAI PROBABLY WON'T EVEN BE ABLE TO MEET MY FAMILY ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE.
I'M TRYING TO FIGURE OUT SOME EXCUSE AND TAKE A RAIN CHECK...
HE'LL BE COMPLETELY FREAKED OUT.
I BOUGHT A BRAND-NEW SUIT AND SHOES, JUST IN CASE.

I HAVE TO BE BRAVE AND STRONG.
AFTER ALL, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PROTECT HIM FROM MY FAMILY.
OH-- REMEMBER WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT THE OTHER DAY?
HE'S TOTALLY INTO THIS.
SHOULD I HAVE MY HAIR CUT?
NO... YOU LOOK FINE...
OH... UH... BUT...
THIS SHOULD BE LONG ENOUGH FOR MOMO, RIGHT?
IT EXTENDS UP TO 30 FEET AND WINDS UP AUTOMATICALLY.
DOESN'T THIS LEASH LOOK GOOD?
LET'S GO MOMO! ♥
AHA, HA, HA, HA, HA!
CAN I TAKE HER OUT SOMETIMES?
ALTHOUGH... I UNDERSTAND IT MIGHT BE HARD FOR YOU TO DO EVERY DAY.
EH, DON'T WORRY. IT'S MY FRIEND'S SHOP, SO I GOT A REALLY GOOD DISCOUNT!
...IT'S JUST... YOU ALWAYS GIVE ME...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO... ALL THIS TROUBLE FOR ME...
IF SHE'S OBESE, YOU HAVE TO TAKE HER FOR LOTS OF WALKS.
HERE. ♥
I SEE...


N-NO WAY!
I LOVE WALKING WITH A DOG!
IT'S GOOD FOR MY HEALTH, AND SO REFRESHING!
I CAN'T IMAGINE A DAY WITHOUT A WALK!
She's desperate.
YOU LIKE IT THAT MUCH...?
COME TO THINK OF IT...
WHEN YOU RUN WITH YOUR DOG AND BREATHE FRESH AIR...
...YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS.
THAT'S TRUE. WHEN I HAD MOMO (MY REAL EX-DOG)...
...I USED TO TAKE HER FOR WALKS WHENEVER I HAD A BAD DAY.
RUNNING AWAY FROM PROBLEMS WAS MUCH EASIER THAN PUTTING UP WITH THEM.
IT'S COLD, MOMO.
I WONDER IF MOM AND DAD ARE STILL FIGHTING.
AFTER I LOST MOMO...
...I COULDN'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE.

OUCH!
... OWWW ...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! WHAT'S WRONG?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT MY HEAD REALLY HURTS.
I WONDER IF IT'S A MIGRAINE...
ズキ
ズキ
WHY DON'T YOU STAY IN BED? AREN'T YOU OFF TODAY ANYWAY?
YEAH. BUT I HAVE TO GO TO THE BEAUTY SALON...
NO WAY. YOU LOOK SO PALE!
THROB
THROB
I HAVEN'T BEEN FEELING WELL LATELY...
...A VERY IMPORTANT DAY IS COMING UP...
THROB

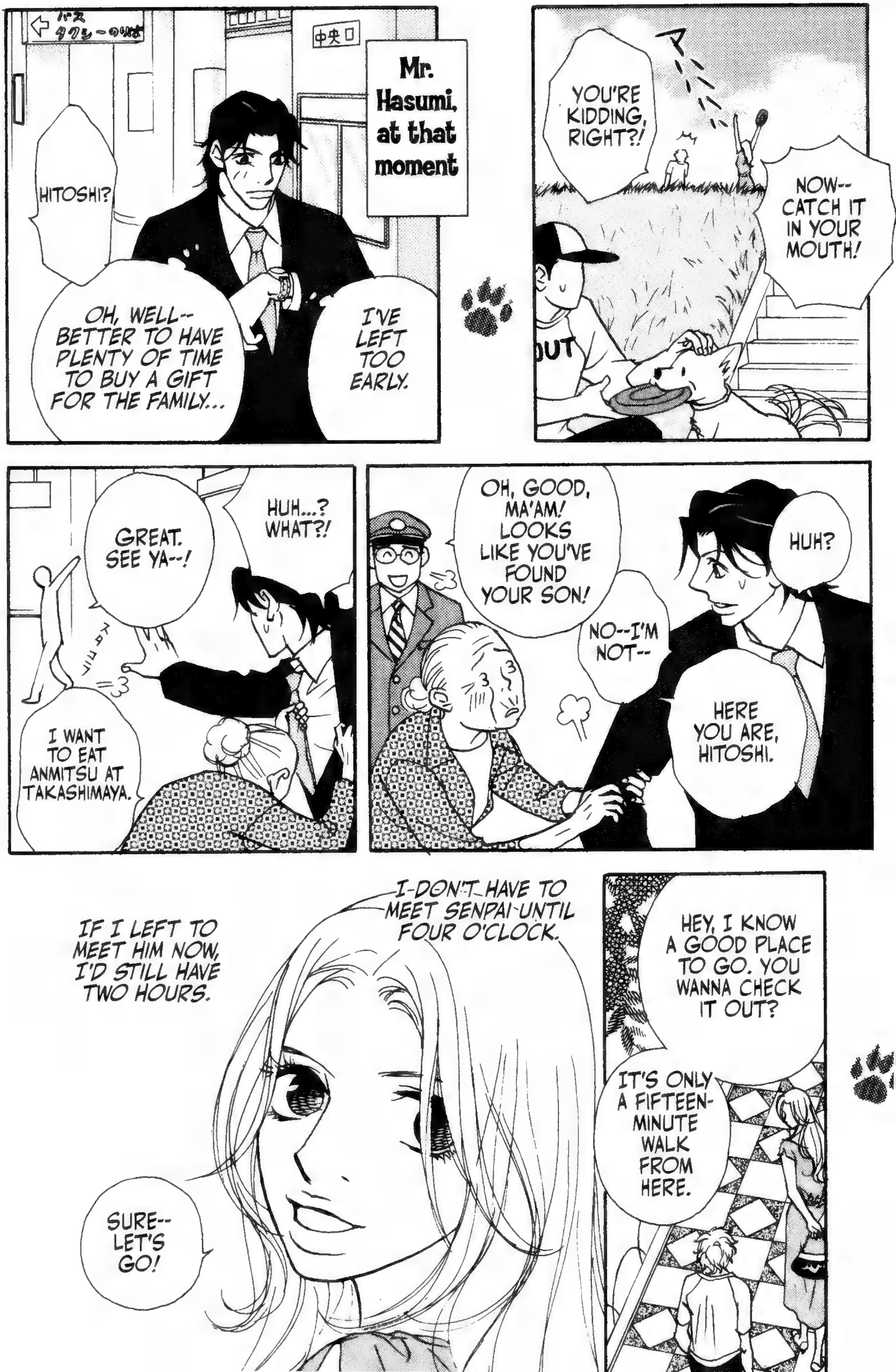
OH--MY KIMONO.
I'LL HAVE TO GO TO MY PARENTS' HOUSE TO GET IT.
HERE ARE YOUR COPIES, MS. IWAYA.
BUT... AUNT KOYUKI IS SO PICKY...!
MAYBE I SHOULD WEAR A ONE-PIECE DRESS OR SOMETHING...
OH, DO YOU WANT ME TO FINISH ADDRESSING THESE LETTERS?
I'M NOT BUSY RIGHT NOW.
.MS. IWAYA?
......
......
HELP! MS. IWAYA IS ABOUT TO FAINT!
WHAT?!
CLINIC
SUDDENLY, I JUST COULDN'T BREATHE...


WELL, I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING WRONG INTERNALLY.
IT MAY JUST BE AN AUTONOMIC IMBALANCE.
AT ANY RATE... YOU SHOULDN'T STRAIN YOURSELF TOO MUCH.
I SEE...
COME TO THINK OF IT, I'M FEELING PRETTY IRRITATED.
PROBABLY BECAUSE IT'S BEEN RAINING SO LONG...AND MY HEADACHE...
THE DINNER IS TOMORROW, ISN'T IT?
I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS...
...BUT ONCE EVERYTHING GOES ALL RIGHT, WE'LL BE OFFICIALLY ACKNOWLEDGED BY YOUR FAMILY!
SO I'LL DO MY BEST.
BEING ACKNOWLEDGED BY MY FAMILY...
...MEANS...
...MARRIAGE...

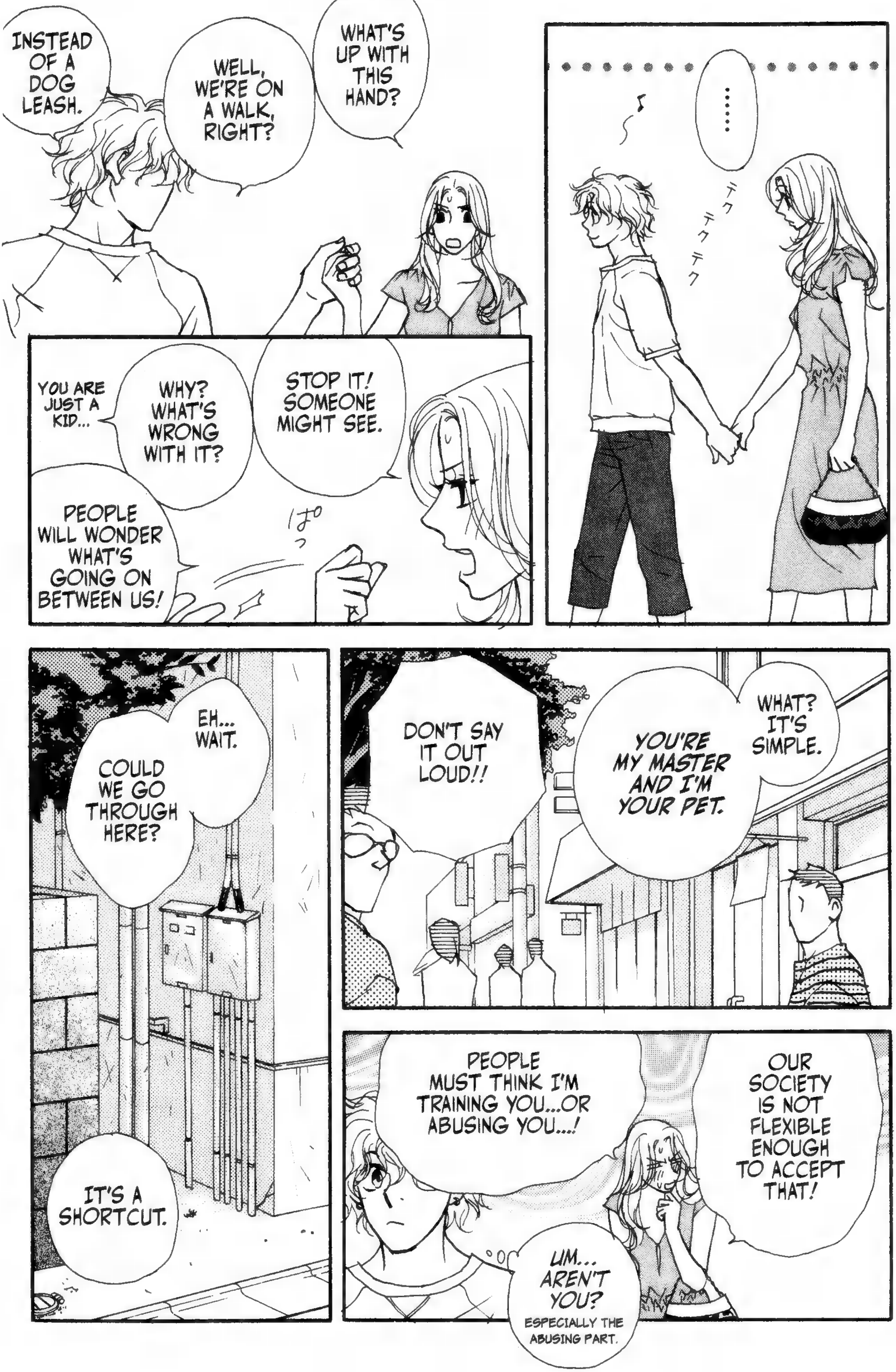
カラッ
......
チュン
チュン
チュン
Curlers
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY.
AFTER EIGHT DAYS OF RAIN, THE KANTO AREA CAN EXPECT A CLEAR DAY.
ACCORDING TO THE WEATHER FORECAST, HIGHS TODAY WILL BE IN THE 80'S.

IF YOU'RE PLANNING ANY OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, YOU MAY NEED TO WATCH OUT FOR SUNSTROKE.
Pet shop Santa
MORE INFORMATION NEXT AFTER THIS COMMERCIAL BREAK.
DYNAMIC DAIKUMA--
MOMO?
He does stretches in the morning.

WHY DON'T WE GO FOR A WALK?
Curly hair
NICE CATCH.
ぱし
BEAUTIFUL!! WHEN YOU SAID YOU TRAINED IN PARIS, YOU WEREN'T KIDDING!
パチパチ
AH, MAIS OUI... COMMENT T'ALLEZ VOUZ?
?
くる くる
ベタッ

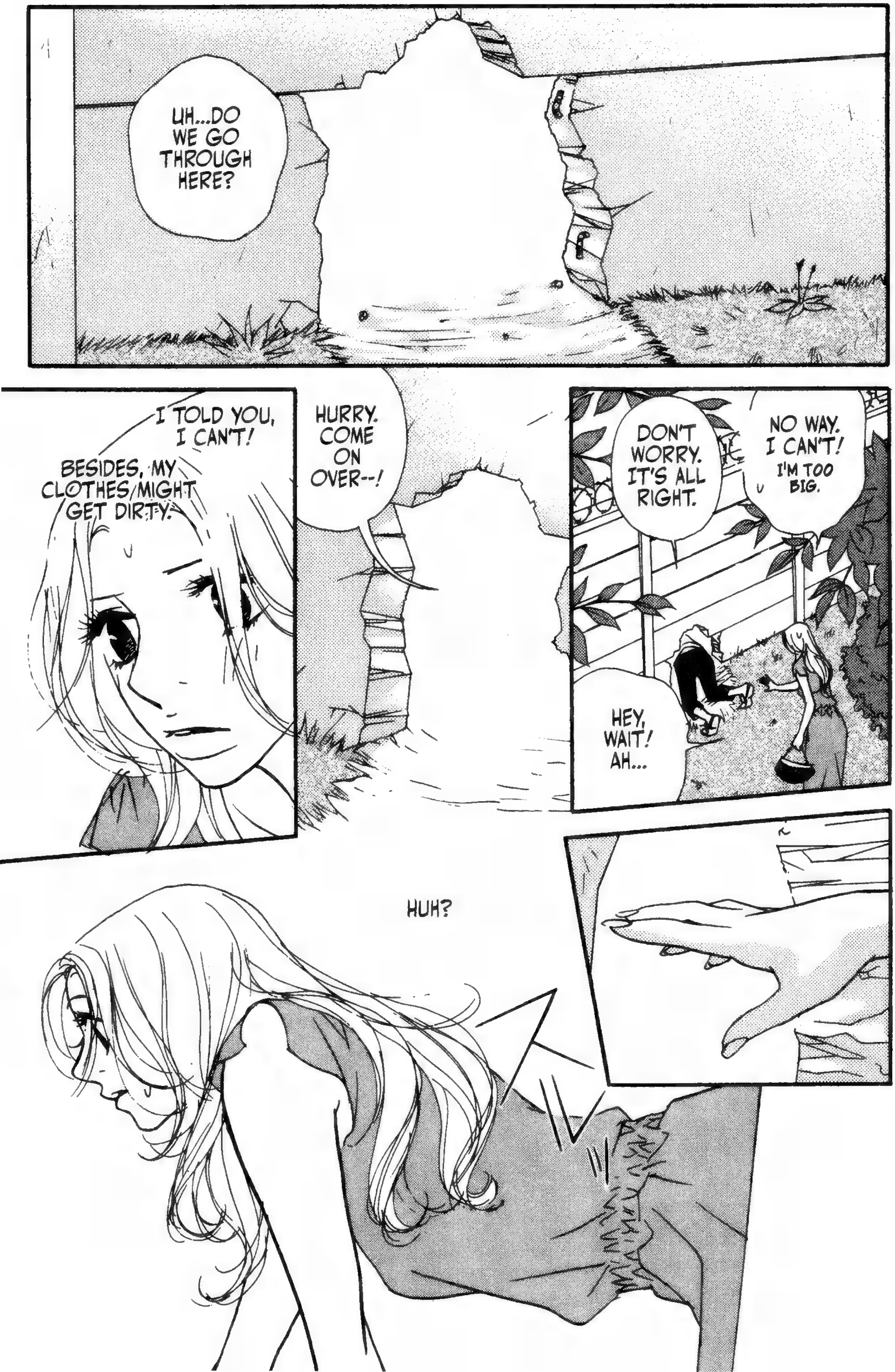


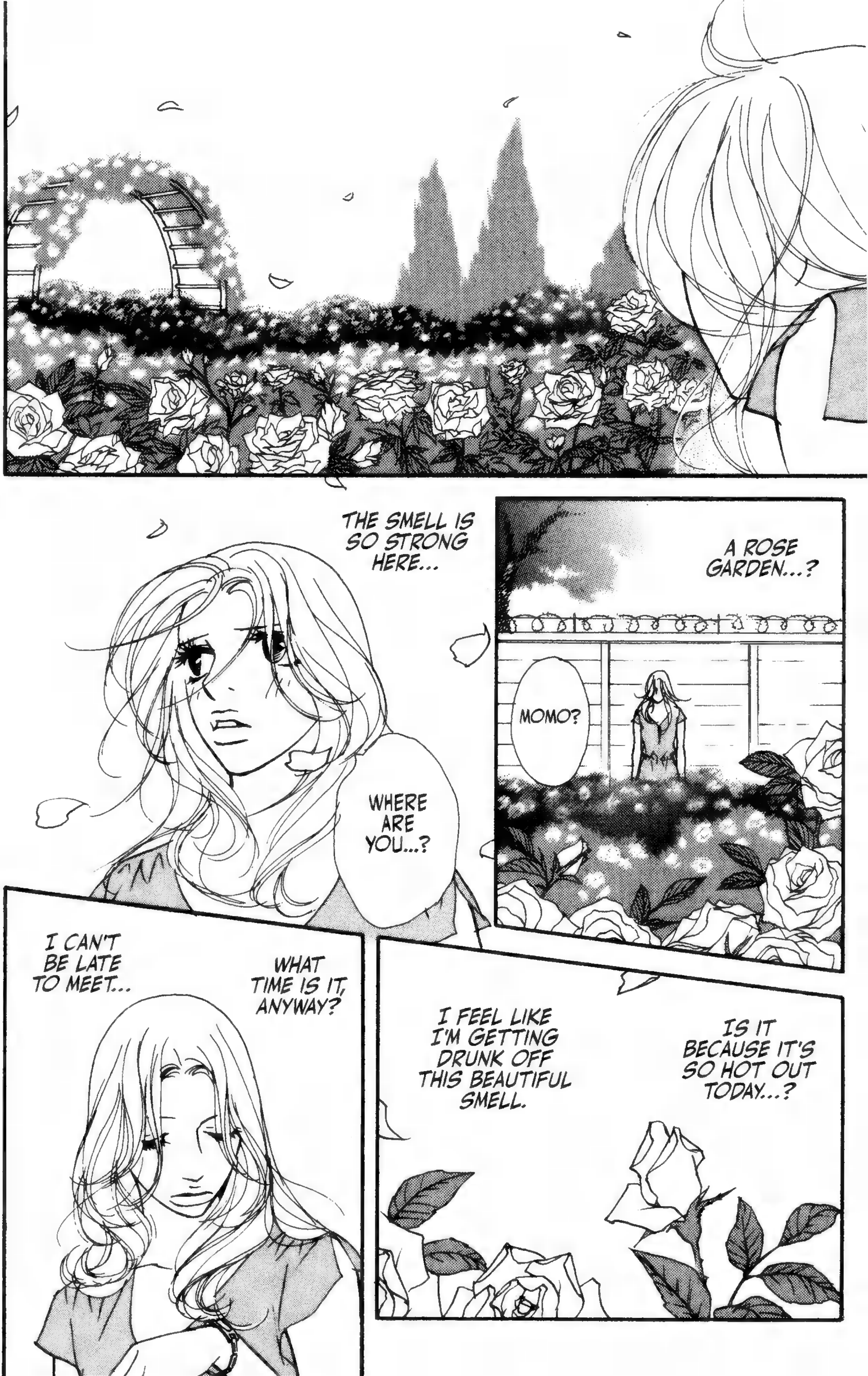
NOW-- CATCH IT IN YOUR MOUTH!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?!
OUT
中央口
Mr. Hasumi, at that moment
I'VE LEFT TOO EARLY.
OH, WELL-- BETTER TO HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO BUY A GIFT FOR THE FAMILY...
HITOSHI?
HUH?
OH, GOOD, MA'AM! LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE FOUND YOUR SON!
NO--I'M NOT--
HERE YOU ARE, HITOSHI.
HUH...? WHAT?!
GREAT. SEE YA--!
I WANT TO EAT ANMITSU AT TAKASHIMAYA.
HEY, I KNOW A GOOD PLACE TO GO. YOU WANNA CHECK IT OUT?
IT'S ONLY A FIFTEEN-MINUTE WALK FROM HERE.
I DON'T HAVE TO MEET SENPAI UNTIL FOUR O'CLOCK.
IF I LEFT TO MEET HIM NOW, I'D STILL HAVE TWO HOURS.
SURE-- LET'S GO!

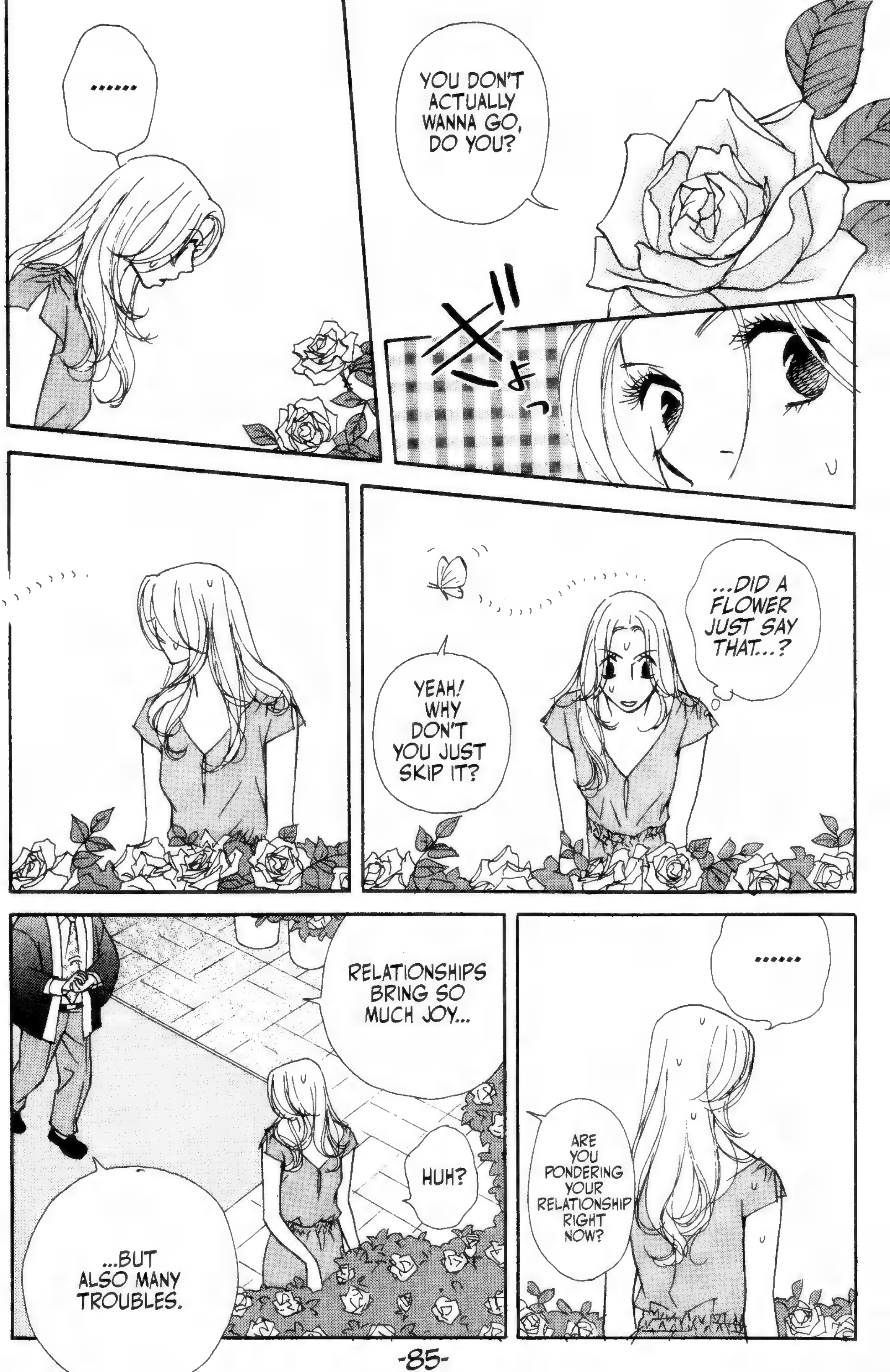


......
テクテクテク
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS HAND?
WELL, WE'RE ON A WALK, RIGHT?
INSTEAD OF A DOG LEASH.
STOP IT! SOMEONE MIGHT SEE.
ぱっ
WHY? WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?
YOU ARE JUST A KID...
PEOPLE WILL WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN US!
WHAT? IT'S SIMPLE.
YOU'RE MY MASTER AND I'M YOUR PET.
DON'T SAY IT OUT LOUD!!
OUR SOCIETY IS NOT FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO ACCEPT THAT!
PEOPLE MUST THINK I'M TRAINING YOU...OR ABUSING YOU...!
UM... AREN'T YOU?
ESPECIALLY THE ABUSING PART.
EH... WAIT.
COULD WE GO THROUGH HERE?
IT'S A SHORTCUT.

ISN'T THIS SOMEONE'S PROPERTY...?
I DUNNO... Y'THINK?
OR--IT'S A GARDEN! FOR SOMEONE!
WAIT, MOMO! THIS ISN'T RIGHT.
DON'T WORRY. DON'T WORRY.
SOMEONE'S TAKING A NAP THERE!
Mr. Hasumi, at that moment
GRANDMA!
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO FOLLOW STRANGERS?!
AND THEY'RE ALWAYS GOOD-LOOKING MEN.
HITOSHI IS ACTING SO STRANGE...
NO! HE ISN'T YOUR SON!
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY...
N-NO PROBLEM. WELL, I'D BETTER GET GOING...
UGH...
EH?
I'M GOING INTO LABOR!
I THINK.
EHHH?!


UH...DO WE GO THROUGH HERE?
I TOLD YOU, I CAN'T!
BESIDES, MY CLOTHES MIGHT GET DIRTY.
HURRY. COME ON OVER--!
DON'T WORRY. IT'S ALL RIGHT.
NO WAY. I CAN'T! I'M TOO BIG.
HEY, WAIT! AH...
HUH?


A ROSE GARDEN...?
MOMO?
THE SMELL IS SO STRONG HERE...
WHERE ARE YOU...?
IS IT BECAUSE IT'S SO HOT OUT TODAY...?
I FEEL LIKE I'M GETTING DRUNK OFF THIS BEAUTIFUL SMELL.
WHAT TIME IS IT, ANYWAY?
I CAN'T BE LATE TO MEET...


YOU DON'T ACTUALLY WANNA GO, DO YOU?
......
ギョッ
...DID A FLOWER JUST SAY THAT...?
YEAH! WHY DON'T YOU JUST SKIP IT?
......
ARE YOU PONDERING YOUR RELATIONSHIP RIGHT NOW?
RELATIONSHIPS BRING SO MUCH JOY...
HUH?
...BUT ALSO MANY TROUBLES.

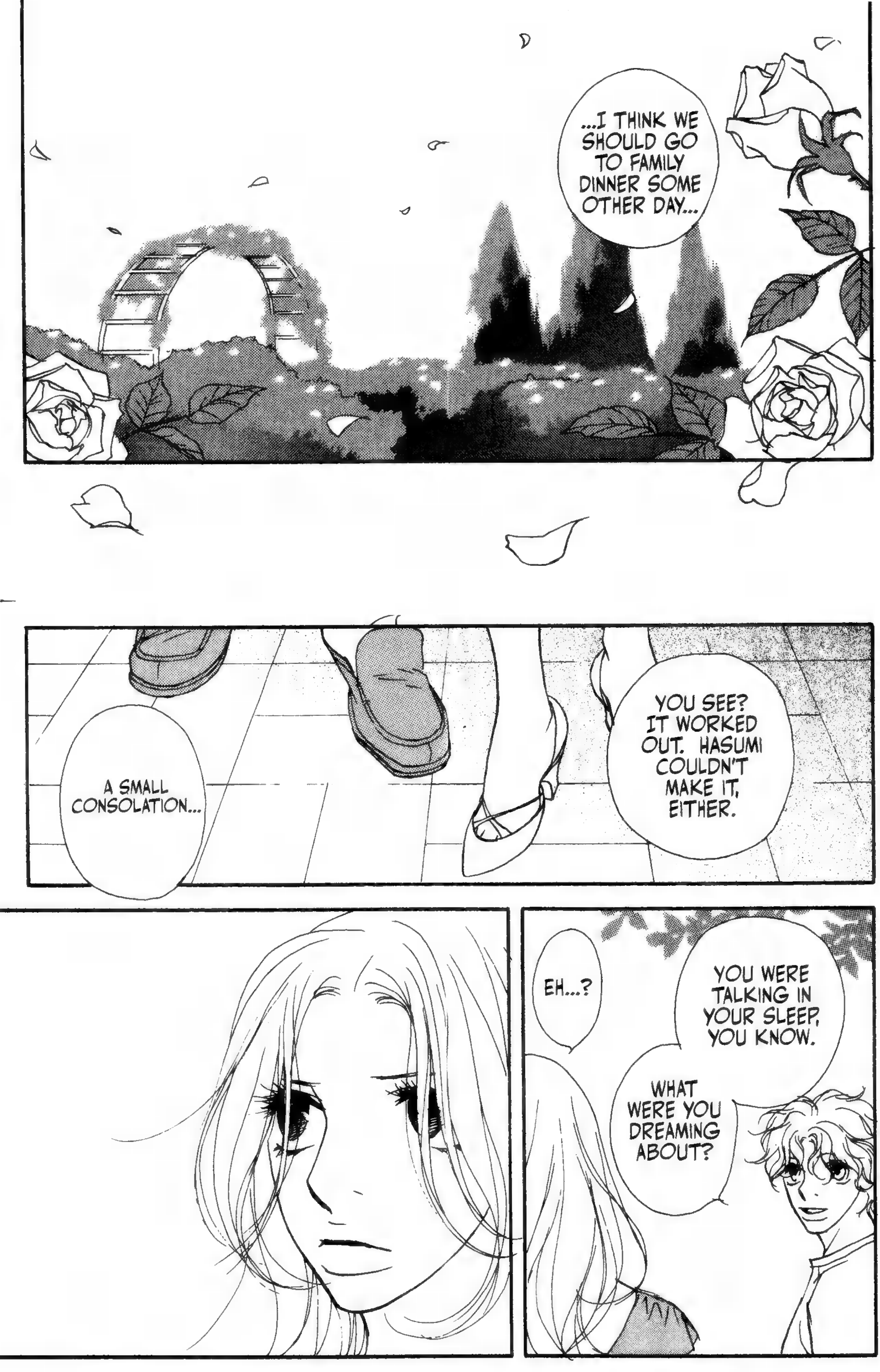
きみのペット
Your Pet
A PET, ON THE OTHER HAND, CAN BE A WONDERFUL LIFE COMPANION!
WITHOUT A WORD, COMPANION ANIMALS CAN HEAL YOUR WOUNDED EMOTIONS JUST BY STAYING CLOSE AT HAND.
WHAT DO YOU THINK? CATS, DOGS. PIGS, RABBITS AND SEA TURTLES! THERE'RE ALL KINDS OF ANIMALS HERE!
UH...NO THANKS. I'VE... ALREADY ...
I ESPECIALLY RECOMMEND THIS ONE!
A MALE HUMAN! HEALTHY, AND HE'S ALREADY HAD ALL HIS SHOTS!
MOMO?!
EXCUSE ME...BUT HE IS... MY...
HMMM, LOOKS GREAT. I'LL TAKE HIM.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PURCHASE.
LET'S SEE. I'LL CALL YOU JOHN... OKAY?
YES, MA'AM.
WHAT...?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'RE MOMO!
YOU'RE MY PET!
NO, SUMIRE.
YOU CAN NO LONGER KEEP ME AS YOUR PET.
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE GONNA MARRY HASUMI... RIGHT?
HEAR THAT? THE CHURCH BELL IS ALREADY RINGING.
MR. HASUMI IS WAITING FOR YOU.
THAT'S RIGHT...I HAVE TO HURRY!
HASUMI SENPAI IS WAITING FOR ME...
SO LONG, SUMIRE.

MOMO ...?
I'LL DO MY BEST TO MAKE SURE MY NEW MASTER TAKES GOOD CARE OF ME!
AND YOU... TAKE CARE, TOO.
WAIT...!
WAIT!
NOT YET...
...I STILL NEED YOU NEAR ME!
I'M NOT GETTING MARRIED!
THAT'S NOT RIGHT, SUMIRE.
THE PARTY CAN'T...
...LAST FOREVER...
SUMIRE.
SUMIRE...

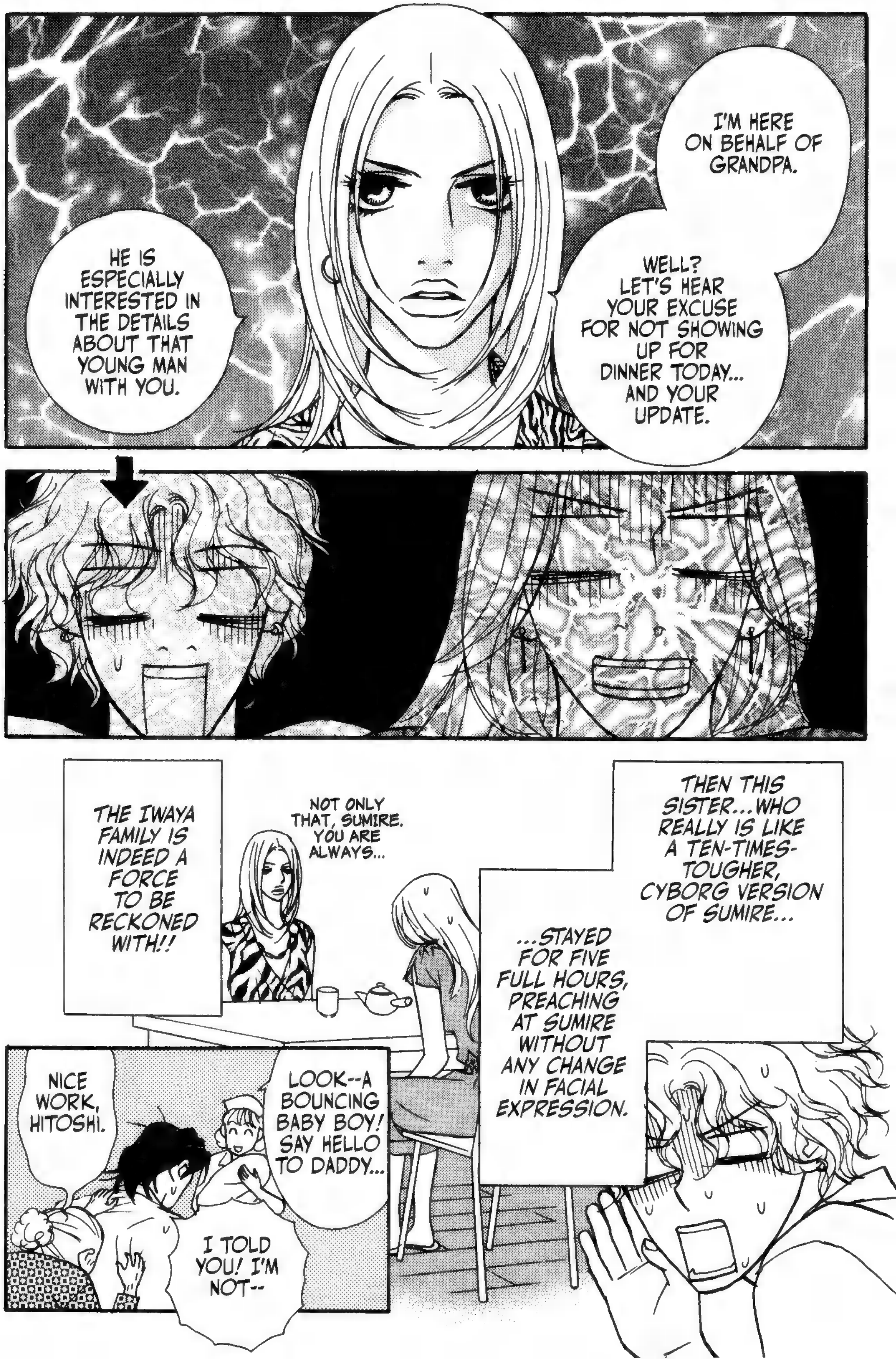
YOU OKAY?
YOU MUST HAVE HEAT-STROKE.
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN WELL LATELY.
HERE.
......
WHERE AM I...?
THIS IS THE TERADA ROSE GARDEN...IT'S A WHOLE-SALER.
BUT IT'S OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WHEN THE ROSES ARE IN FULL BLOOM.
THOUGH THEY'RE ALMOST GONE SINCE IT'S BEEN RAINING FOR THE PAST WEEK, HUH?

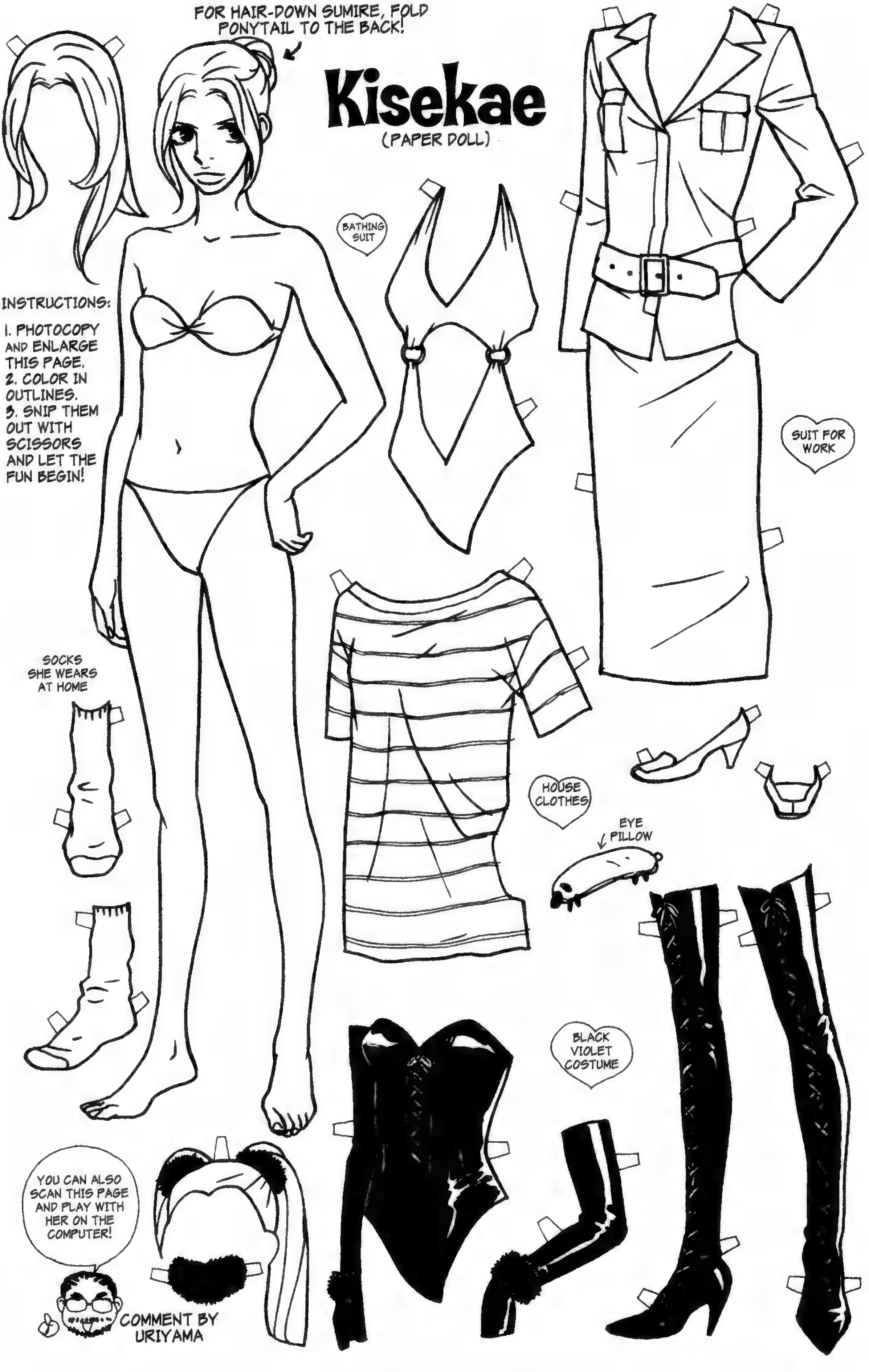
WHAT...?
THEY WERE BLOOMING JUST A MINUTE AGO...
HEY, IT'S ALREADY 5 O'CLOCK. YOU SURE THAT'S OKAY?
5 O'CLOCK?!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!
MY CELL PHONE--OH, NO--IT'S OFF!
NO, IT'S TRUE.
ACK!
チャーラーラー♪
ヒッ
WITHOUT WARNING...
OBSTETRICS and GYNECOLOGY
MS. IWAYA?! GOOD THING I FINALLY REACHED YOU!
I'M SO SORRY!! BUT I'VE RUN INTO SOME TROUBLE AND I'M STUCK HERE RIGHT NOW.
I'LL MEET YOU THERE IN JUST A BIT. WAIT...
THERE'S THE LUCKY DAD! YOUR BABY WAS JUST BORN.
AH, WELL... ACTUALLY, I...UH...
I'M NOT FEELING WELL.
OH, NO-- I'M OKAY.
IT'S JUST THAT...WE'RE ALREADY LATE, SO...


...I THINK WE SHOULD GO TO FAMILY DINNER SOME OTHER DAY...
YOU SEE? IT WORKED OUT. HASUMI COULDN'T MAKE IT, EITHER.
A SMALL CONSOLATION...
YOU WERE TALKING IN YOUR SLEEP, YOU KNOW.
WHAT WERE YOU DREAMING ABOUT?
EH...?

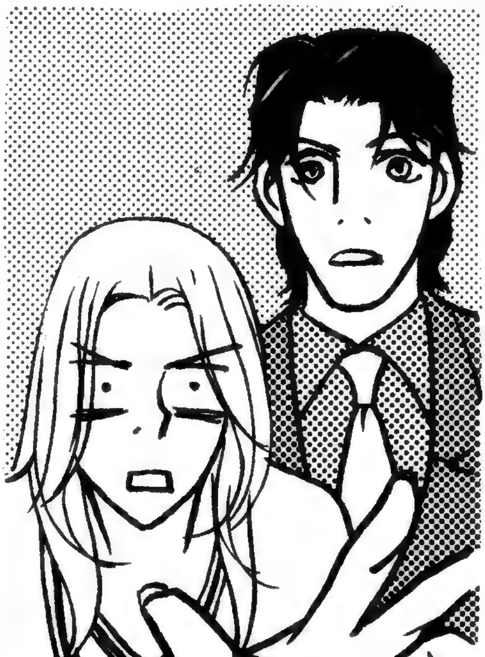
I DON'T REMEMBER MUCH...
HMMM...
AT THAT MOMENT...
...I REALIZED THAT WHAT WE HAVE NOW...
...MIGHT JUST BE ANOTHER HAPPY DREAM.
DO YOU NEED ME TO WALK A BIT SLOWER...?

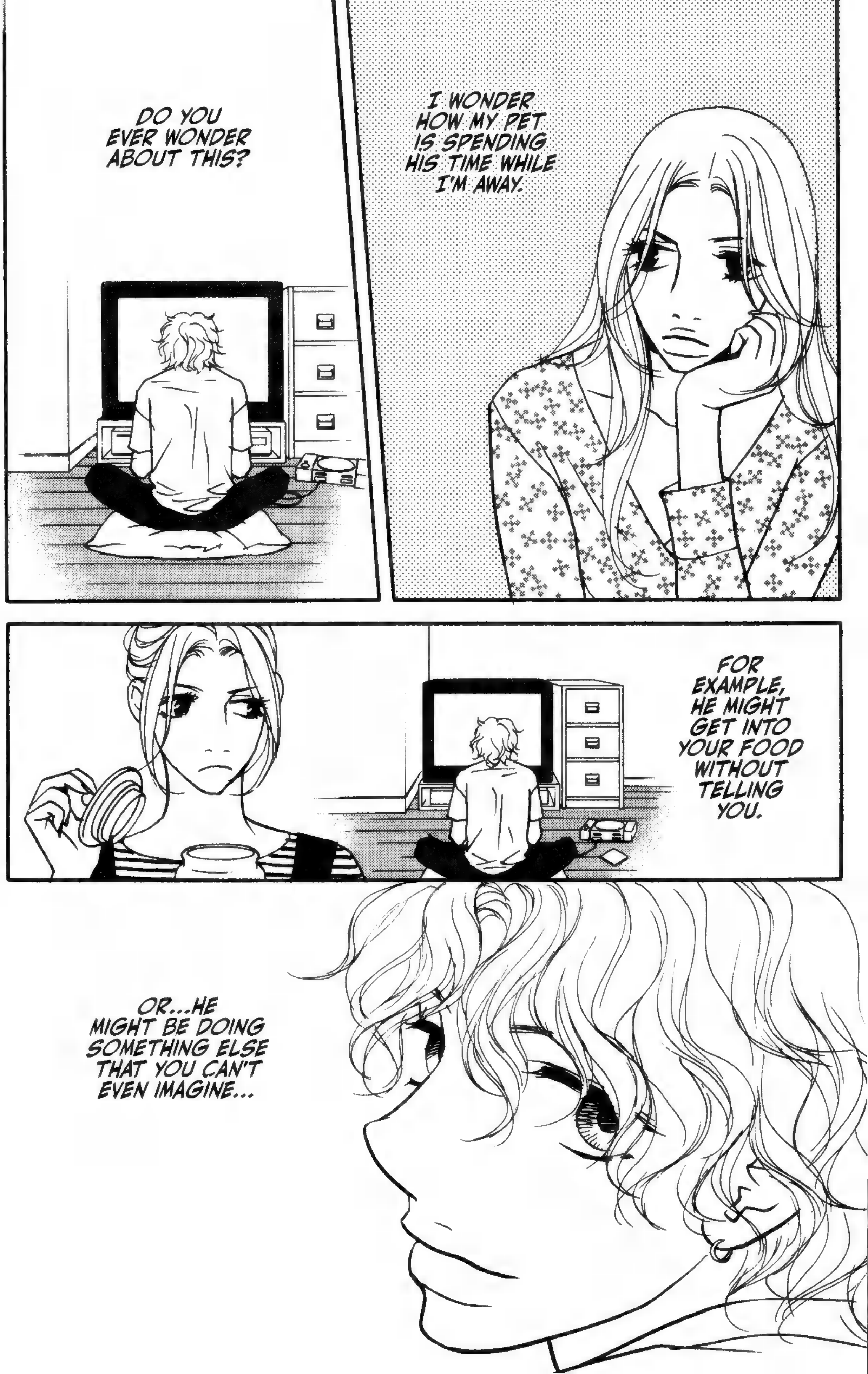
UM?
WOW.
SWEET--! A BLACK CORVETTE!
......!!
CLICK
SO... LONG TIME NO SEE...
...SUMIRE.
S...
SISTER ...?
EH?!!


I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF GRANDPA.
WELL? LET'S HEAR YOUR EXCUSE FOR NOT SHOWING UP FOR DINNER TODAY... AND YOUR UPDATE.
HE IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN THE DETAILS ABOUT THAT YOUNG MAN WITH YOU.
THEN THIS SISTER...WHO REALLY IS LIKE A TEN-TIMES-TOUGHER, CYBORG VERSION OF SUMIRE...
...STAYED FOR FIVE FULL HOURS, PREACHING AT SUMIRE WITHOUT ANY CHANGE IN FACIAL EXPRESSION.
NOT ONLY THAT, SUMIRE. YOU ARE ALWAYS...
THE IWAYA FAMILY IS INDEED A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH!!
LOOK--A BOUNCING BABY BOY! SAY HELLO TO DADDY...
NICE WORK, HITOSHI.
I TOLD YOU! I'M NOT--

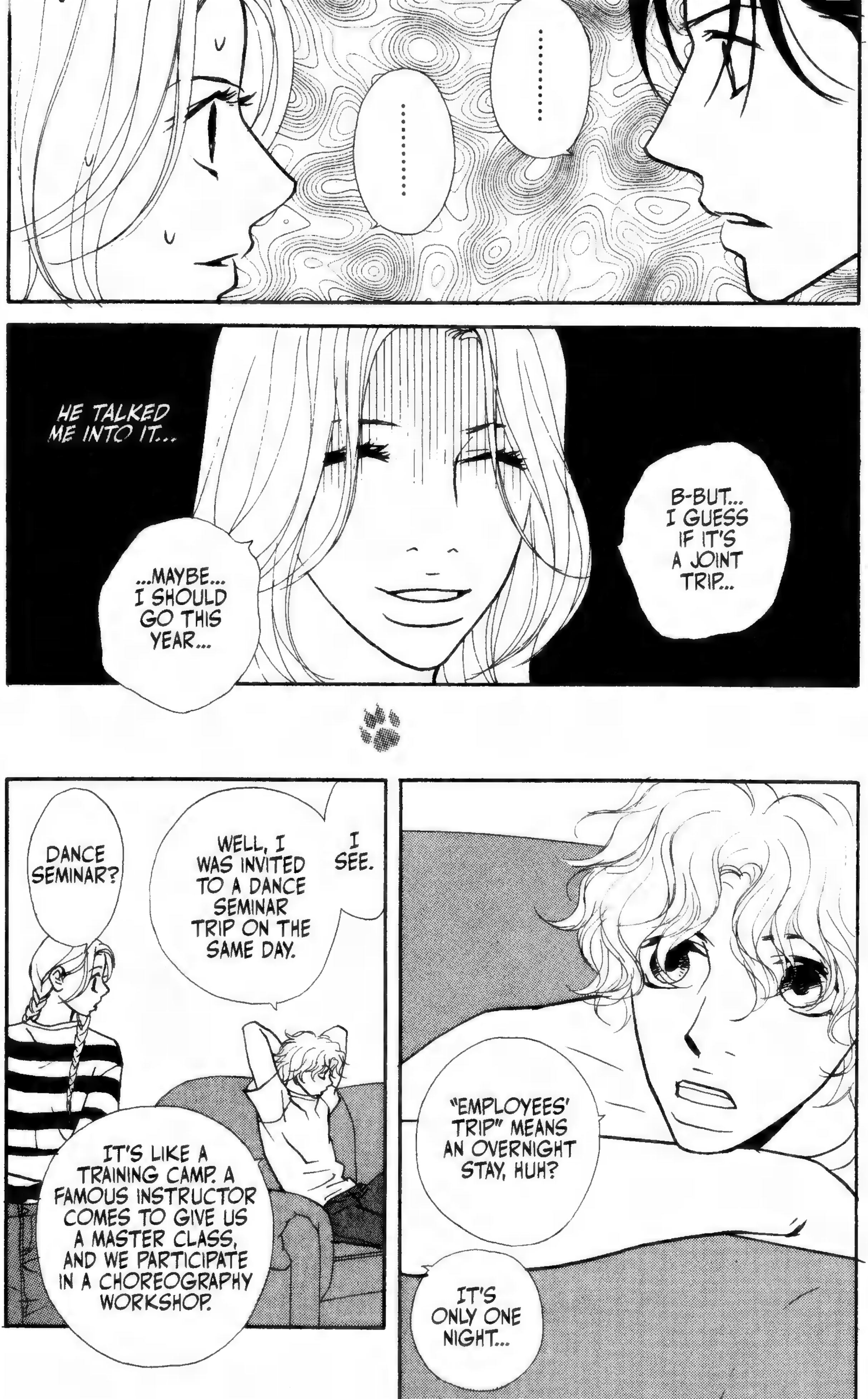

FOR HAIR-DOWN SUMIRE, FOLD PONYTAIL TO THE BACK!
Kisekae
(PAPER DOLL)
BATHING SUIT
INSTRUCTIONS:
1. PHOTOCOPY AND ENLARGE THIS PAGE.
2. COLOR IN OUTLINES.
3. SNIP THEM OUT WITH SCISSORS AND LET THE FUN BEGIN!
SUIT FOR WORK
SOCKS SHE WEARS AT HOME
HOUSE CLOTHES
EYE PILLOW
BLACK VIOLET COSTUME
YOU CAN ALSO SCAN THIS PAGE AND PLAY WITH HER ON THE COMPUTER!
COMMENT BY URIYAMA

RULE 14: FOR A FUN VACATION

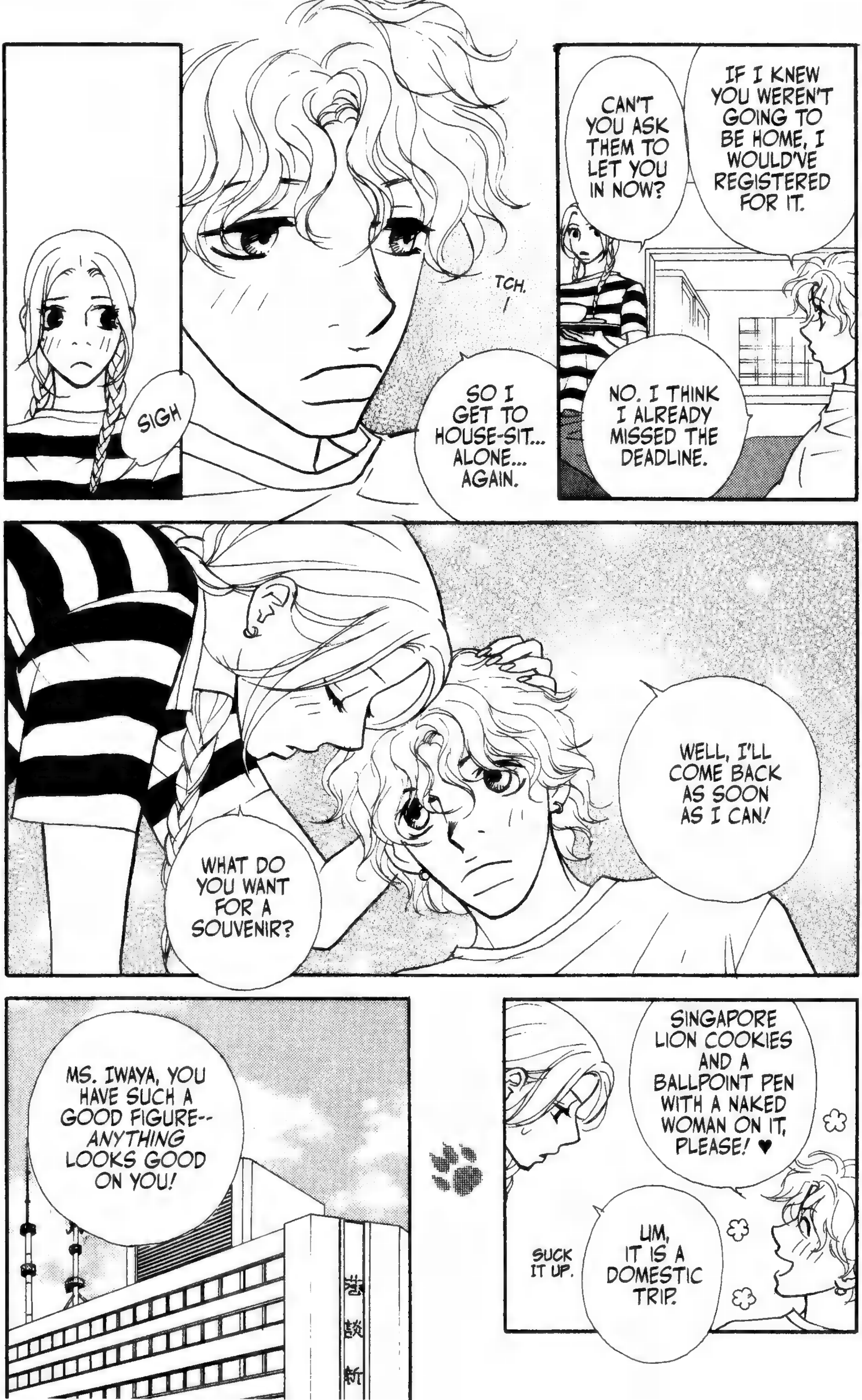



I WONDER HOW MY PET IS SPENDING HIS TIME WHILE I'M AWAY.
DO YOU EVER WONDER ABOUT THIS?
FOR EXAMPLE, HE MIGHT GET INTO YOUR FOOD WITHOUT TELLING YOU.
OR...HE MIGHT BE DOING SOMETHING ELSE THAT YOU CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE...

* ZENGEN = AN "EMPLOYEES' TRIP." THAT'S WHAT SUMIRE'S PAPER CALLS IT, ANYWAY.



......
......
B-BUT... I GUESS IF IT'S A JOINT TRIP...
...MAYBE... I SHOULD GO THIS YEAR...
HE TALKED ME INTO IT...
"EMPLOYEES' TRIP" MEANS AN OVERNIGHT STAY, HUH?
IT'S ONLY ONE NIGHT...
I SEE.
WELL, I WAS INVITED TO A DANCE SEMINAR TRIP ON THE SAME DAY.
DANCE SEMINAR?
IT'S LIKE A TRAINING CAMP. A FAMOUS INSTRUCTOR COMES TO GIVE US A MASTER CLASS, AND WE PARTICIPATE IN A CHOREOGRAPHY WORKSHOP.

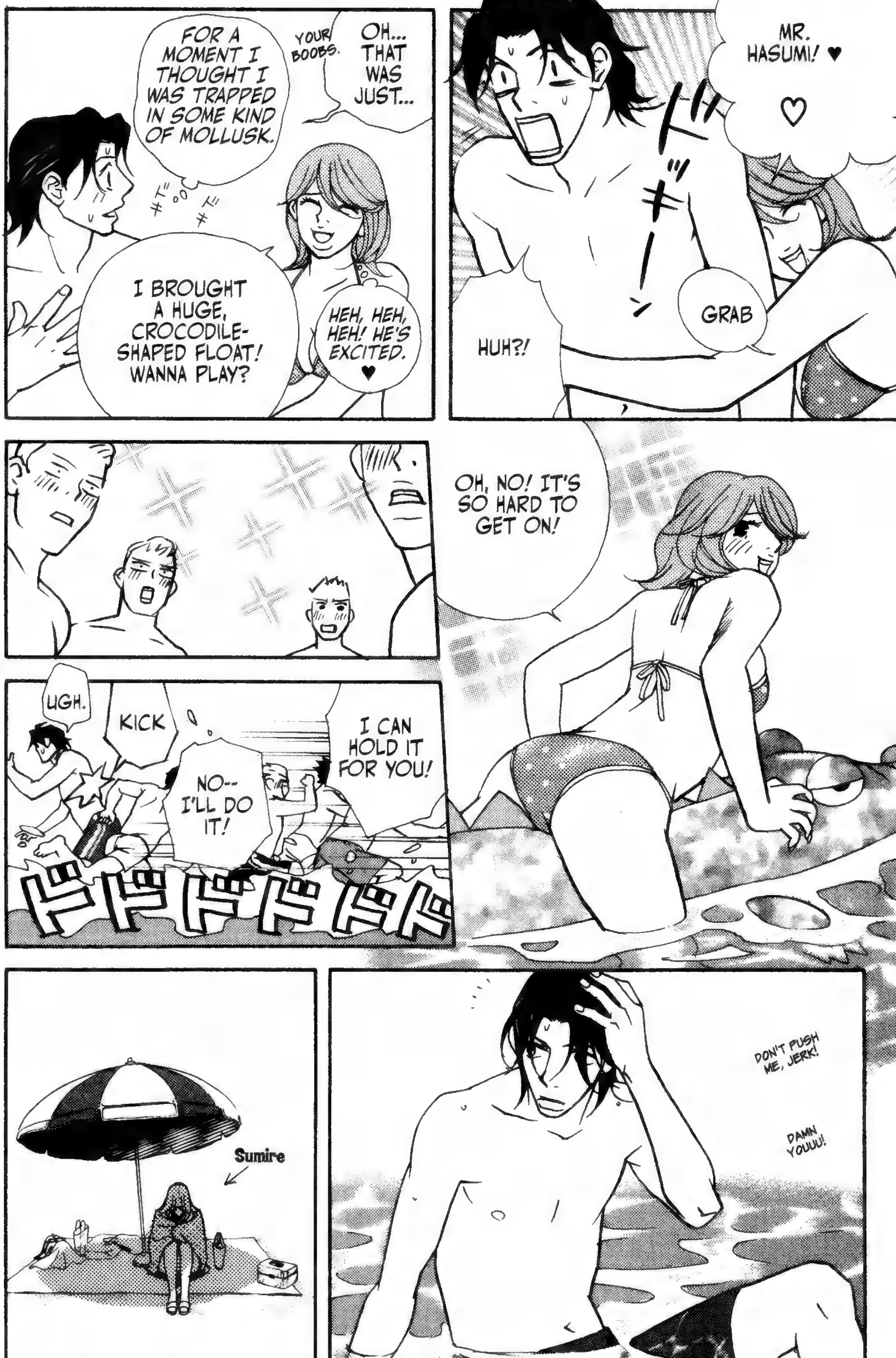


IF I KNEW YOU WEREN'T GOING TO BE HOME, I WOULD'VE REGISTERED FOR IT.
CAN'T YOU ASK THEM TO LET YOU IN NOW?
NO. I THINK I ALREADY MISSED THE DEADLINE.
SO I GET TO HOUSE-SIT... ALONE... AGAIN.
TCH.
SIGH
WELL, I'LL COME BACK AS SOON AS I CAN!
WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR A SOUVENIR?
SINGAPORE LION COOKIES AND A BALLPOINT PEN WITH A NAKED WOMAN ON IT, PLEASE! ♥
UM, IT IS A DOMESTIC TRIP.
SUCK IT UP.
MS. IWAYA, YOU HAVE SUCH A GOOD FIGURE--ANYTHING LOOKS GOOD ON YOU!

WHAT KIND OF BATHING SUIT DO YOU WEAR, MS. IWAYA?
I DON'T EVEN HAVE MY OLD ONE FROM SCHOOL.
COULD I WEAR IT IF I STILL DID?
OF COURSE! WE ARE STAYING RIGHT ON THE BEACH TOMORROW. YOU COULD STEP RIGHT OUT OF YOUR ROOM IN A BATHING SUIT AND NO ONE WOULD CARE!
I BOUGHT A SEXY BIKINI TOP--!
STILL WEARING SHORTS, THOUGH.
EH... WHAT?
YOU KNOW, LIKE A BATHING SUIT. I WISH I LOOKED GOOD IN A--
BATHING SUIT?!
BATHING SUIT?
Sumire's younger sister, Akane
SURE-- I HAVE FOUR OR FIVE OF THEM.
WHAT KIND DO YOU WANT?
JUST THE SIMPLEST, PLAINEST ONE YOU OWN.
NO BIKINIS-- I WANT A ONE-PIECE, OKAY?
ONE-PIECE... I SEE.
Lamé

DAMN. SHOULDA BEEN MORE SPECIFIC.
WHOA-- SEXY!
ARE YOU REALLY GONNA WEAR THAT?
HELD TOGETHER BY JUST TWO RINGS...
AKANE!
ドドドド
LATER, CHICA.
MOMO...? DO THEY SELL BATHING SUITS AT CONVENIENCE STORES...?
OH, JUST WEAR IT ALREADY.
KYA--! ♡
I HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE BEACH IN SOOOO LONG--!
GOOD THING I CAME ON THIS TRIP!

WELL, SINCE THERE WEREN'T TOO MANY GIRLS GOING, SOMEONE MUST'VE ASKED THEM TO JOIN US.
WHAT'S THAT BITCH FROM DENTISTRY DOING HERE, ANYWAY?
DO THEY DO BOOBS AT THE CLINIC, TOO?
ACTUALLY, YOU WERE ONLY INVITED AS A COURTESY, TOO, SINCE YOU'RE ONLY A PART-TIMER.
HUH?
CHECK IT OUT--!
Sumire's inner monologue
OH MY GOSH-- EVERYONE IS LOOKING AT ME!!
SOMEBODY PLEASE--DIG A HOLE AND BURY ME!!
THAT'S RIGHT.
Proud
ALWAYS HEARD MS. IWAYA HAS A GREAT FIGURE.
YEAH-- SHE'S LIKE A MODEL!
DAMMIT


MR. HASUMI! ♥
GRAB
HUH?!
OH... THAT WAS JUST...
YOUR BOOBS.
FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT I WAS TRAPPED IN SOME KIND OF MOLLUSK.
HEH, HEH, HEH! HE'S EXCITED. ♥
I BROUGHT A HUGE, CROCODILE-SHAPED FLOAT! WANNA PLAY?
OH, NO! IT'S SO HARD TO GET ON!
I CAN HOLD IT FOR YOU!
NO-- I'LL DO IT!
KICK
UGH.
DON'T PUSH ME, JERK!
DAMN YOUUU!
Sumire

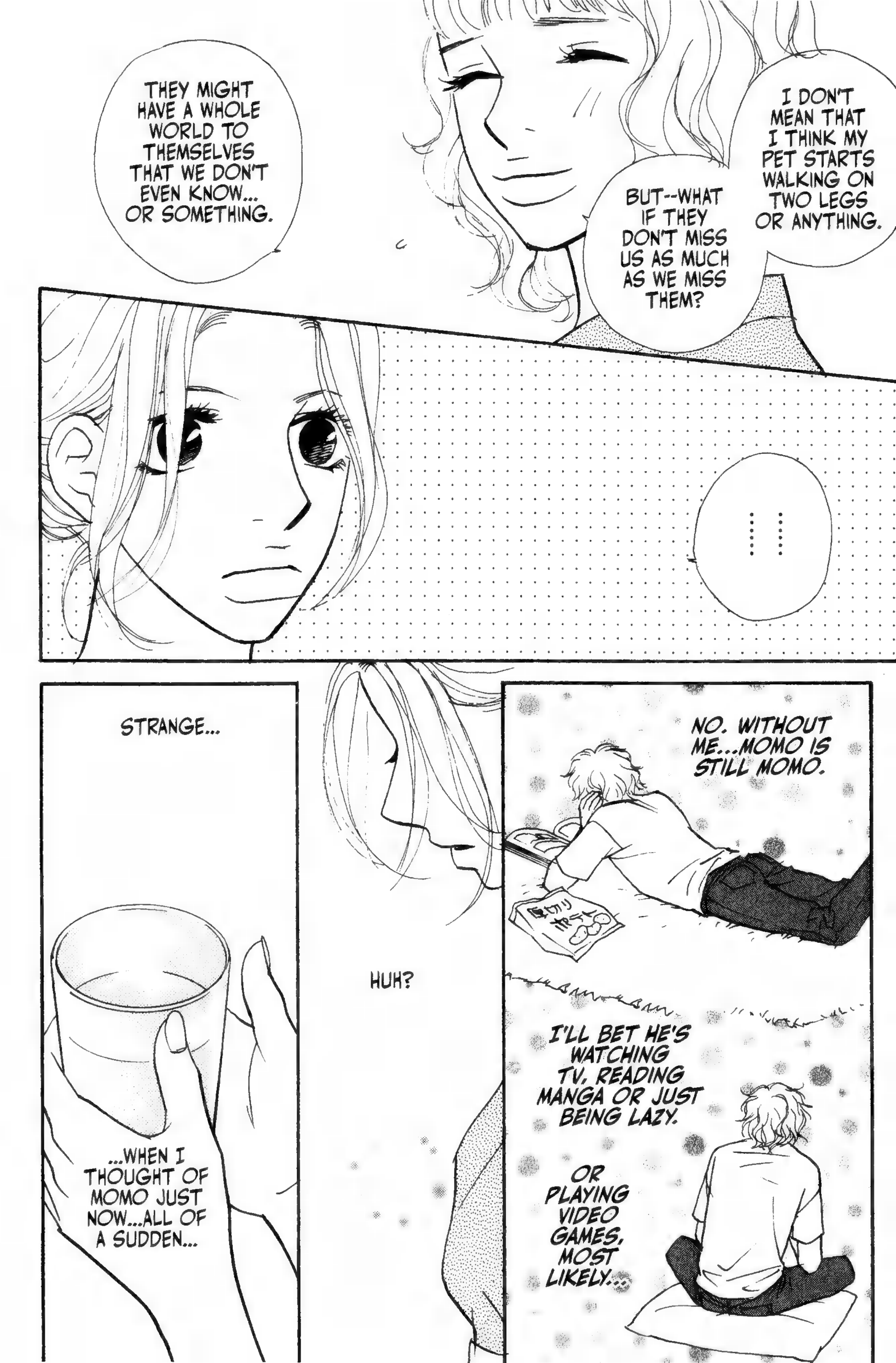
MS. IWAYA!
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN...
...ME ...
OH, NO! I THINK A JELLYFISH STUNG ME!
......
SEE? IS IT TURNING RED?
UH...WELL...
I'M SORRY, HASUMI SENPAI...
I REALLY WANT TO SAVE YOU FROM MS. FUKUSHIMA'S DIABOLICAL SCHEME TO ATTRACT YOU.
BUT I CAN'T RIGHT NOW.
YOU SEE...

...I CAN'T SWIM. ♥
IT WAS ABOUT 21 YEARS AGO...
NO!
SISTER! GRANDPA!
I'M SCARED OF THE OCEAN! I'M SCARED OF WAVES!
Sumire's sister Shinobu, 9 years old
Sumire, 6 years old
GRANDPA...?
YOU MAY.
NOOOO--
THE FATHER LION LET HIS OWN CHILDREN FALL INTO THE UNFATHOMABLE RAVINE.

MR. ISHIDA, WHAT'S TAKING YOU SO LONG?!
I'M COMING!
MS. IWAYA, DON'T YOU WANT TO SWIM?
OH, UH... MAYBE LATER...
SINCE THEN, EVEN STANDING ON A BEACH FREAKS ME OUT...
...THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO GO TO THE BEACH.
きゃははは—
氷
シャワー
DAMNED...
...BEACH...

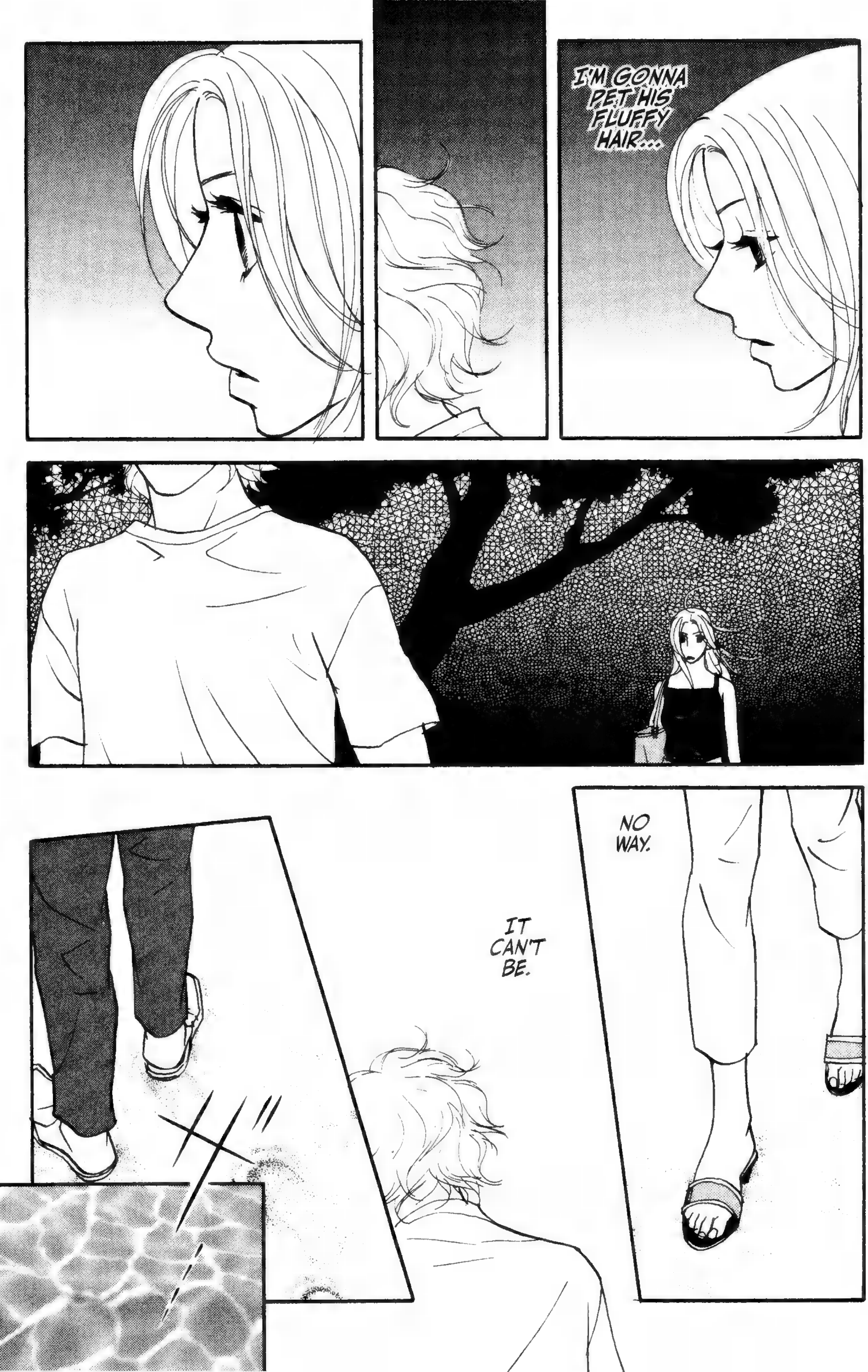
HAVE SOME BEER, MR. HASUMI! ♥
OH... THANKS.
......
HOW ABOUT SOME SAKE, MS. IWAYA?
...THANKS.
GLASS?!

OF COURSE, IT'S MY OWN FAULT THAT I CAN'T SWIM.
BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO ACT SO HAPPY WITH THAT BITCH RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME...
YOU LOOKED STUPID RIDING ON THAT CROCODILE FLOAT, ANYWAY.
SO IS MOMO STAYING ALL BY HERSELF TODAY?
EH?!
SO IS MY GOMA.
OH... SHE MEANS MY "CAT."
AH... YES.
BUT CATS ARE PRETTY MUCH OKAY STAYING OVERNIGHT ALONE, AREN'T THEY?
MY MS. IWAYA... ALSO LOOKS SO BEAUTIFUL... IN A YUKATA!
HEY--MR. HASUMI--BOTTOMS UP!
UNINTENTIONAL HAIKU
EH?
DON'T YOU WONDER ABOUT IT SOMETIMES?
WHAT YOUR PET DOES WHILE YOU'RE GONE?

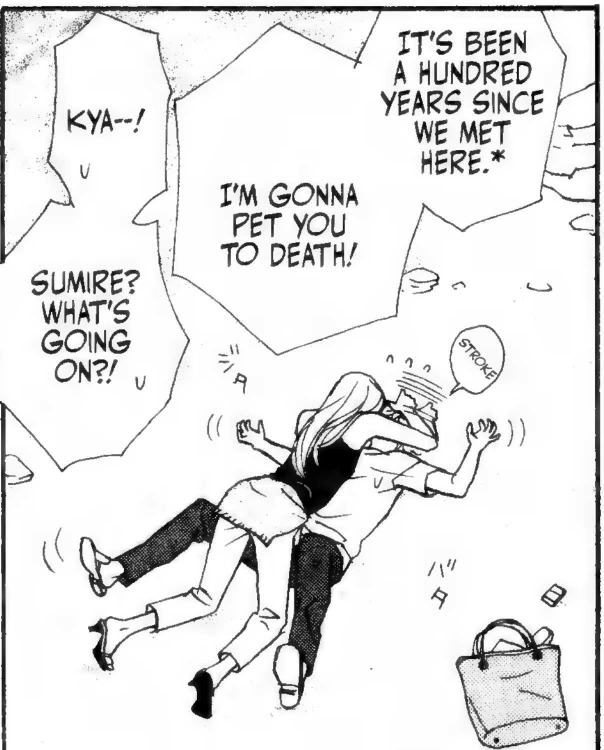

I DON'T MEAN THAT I THINK MY PET STARTS WALKING ON TWO LEGS OR ANYTHING.
BUT--WHAT IF THEY DON'T MISS US AS MUCH AS WE MISS THEM?
THEY MIGHT HAVE A WHOLE WORLD TO THEMSELVES THAT WE DON'T EVEN KNOW... OR SOMETHING.
......
NO. WITHOUT ME...MOMO IS STILL MOMO.
I'LL BET HE'S WATCHING TV, READING MANGA OR JUST BEING LAZY.
OR PLAYING VIDEO GAMES, MOST LIKELY...
HUH?
STRANGE...
...WHEN I THOUGHT OF MOMO JUST NOW...ALL OF A SUDDEN...

WHAT...
...AM I DOING HERE?
I'M OUT OF BEER! MORE BEER!
HERE, AKEMI! SIT HERE!
EH? OH, MS. IWAYA. IF YOU WANT MORE SAKE, IT'S RIGHT HERE!
YEAH MAN, YOU SHOULD CHECK IT OUT ONLINE.
...ON THE INTERNET?
RIGHT.
I WANNA GO HOME.

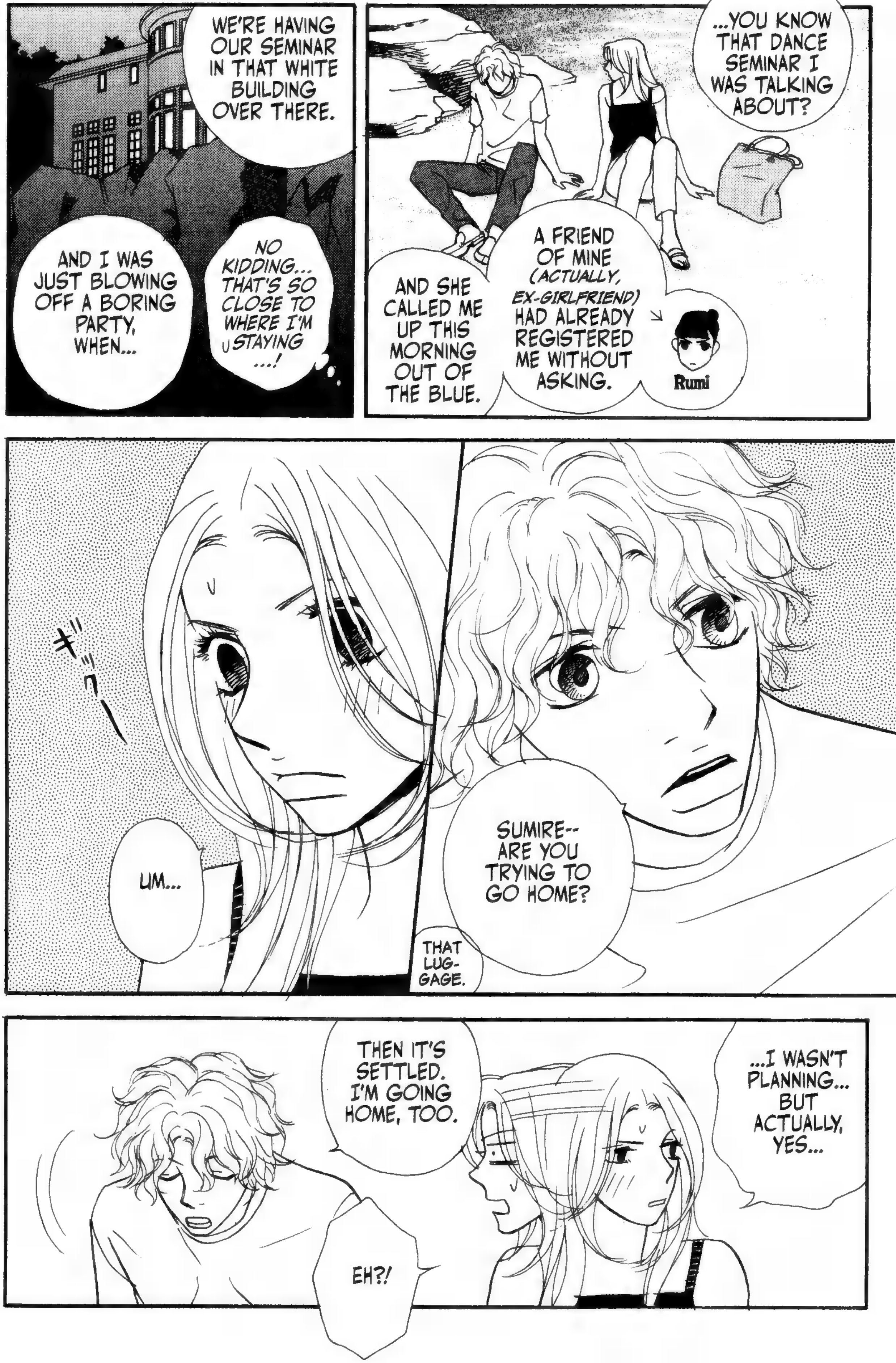
I WANNA GO HOME.
ONCE I GET HOME, I'M GONNA SIT DOWN AND WATCH TV WITH MOMO...
IT'S BETTER THIS WAY.
...I THINK "ATHENA, GODDESS OF MARTIAL ARTS" IS ON TONIGHT.
さくま
YOU CAN PICK UP A TAXI FROM ANY MAIN STREET.
THANK YOU.


I'M GONNA PET HIS FLUFFY HAIR...
NO WAY.
IT CAN'T BE.

MOMO?!
SUMIRE...?
THUD



*EDITOR'S NOTE: A JAPANESE EXPRESSION THAT MEANS IT'S BEEN TOO LONG SINCE WE LAST MET.


...YOU KNOW THAT DANCE SEMINAR I WAS TALKING ABOUT?
A FRIEND OF MINE (ACTUALLY, EX-GIRLFRIEND) HAD ALREADY REGISTERED ME WITHOUT ASKING.
Rumi
AND SHE CALLED ME UP THIS MORNING OUT OF THE BLUE.
WE'RE HAVING OUR SEMINAR IN THAT WHITE BUILDING OVER THERE.
NO KIDDING... THAT'S SO CLOSE TO WHERE I'M STAYING ...!
AND I WAS JUST BLOWING OFF A BORING PARTY, WHEN...
SUMIRE-- ARE YOU TRYING TO GO HOME?
THAT LUG-GAGE.
UM...
...I WASN'T PLANNING... BUT ACTUALLY, YES...
THEN IT'S SETTLED. I'M GOING HOME, TOO.
EH?!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOUR FRIEND WENT TO ALL THAT TROUBLE TO GET YOU IN THE SEMINAR--!
EH. IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
THE INSTRUCTOR GAVE ME PERFECTLY GOOD NOTES EARLIER TODAY.
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO WITH ME, MOMO.
SUMIRE.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SAY...
..."LET'S GO HOME."
AFTER ALL... YOU'RE MY MISTRESS.

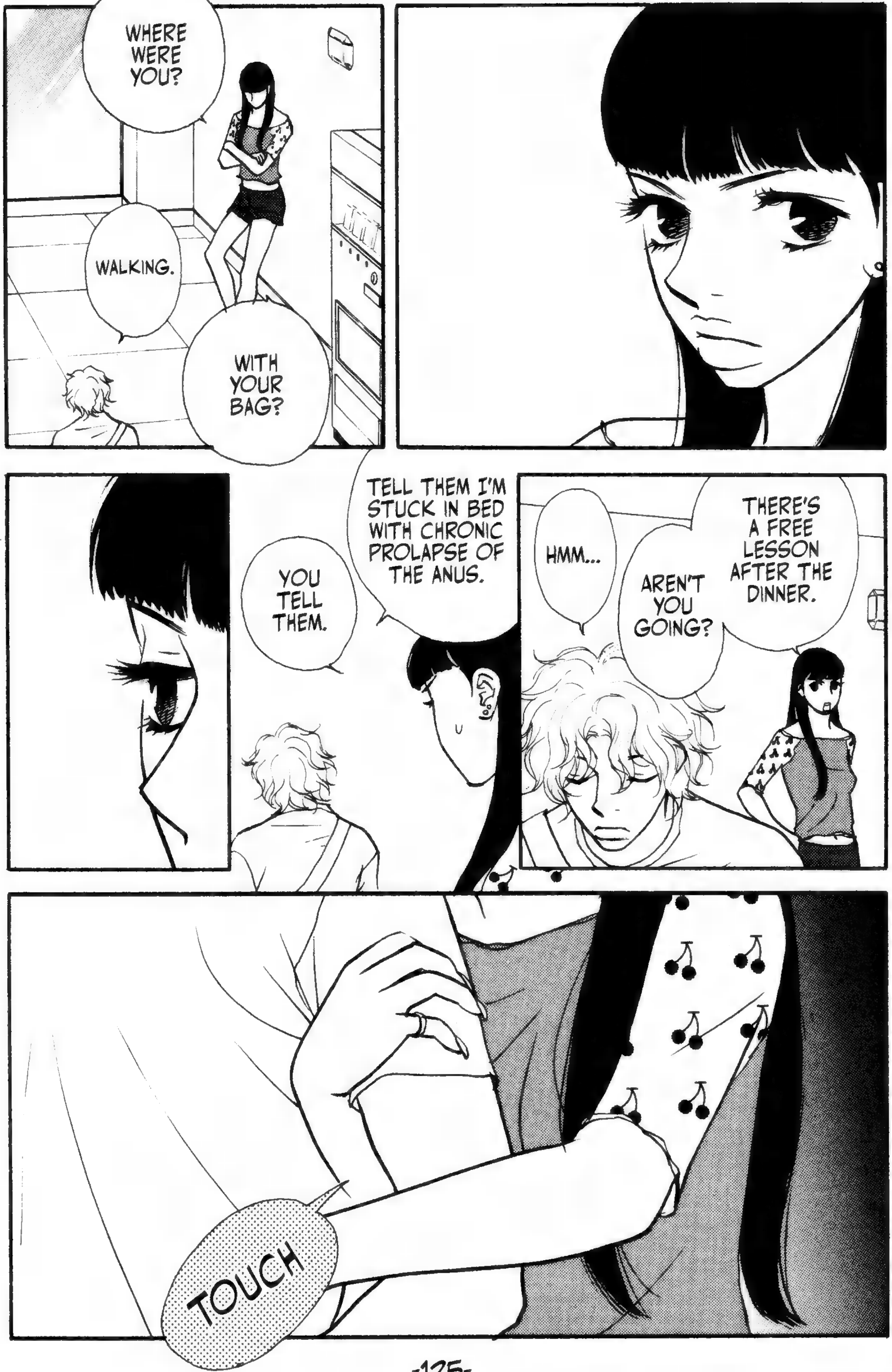
....
THEN... LET'S GO HOME...
...SHALL WE?
CHU
WAIT FOR ME HERE. I'LL GET MY BAG.
OKAY.
I FEEL A BIT GUILTY.
MS. IWAYA!

H-HASUMI SENPAI...
YOU LEFT THE PARTY SO SUDDENLY...
...IS ANYTHING WRONG?
はー
はー
NO! I MEAN... AH...
I...WANTED TO TAKE A WALK...TO SOBER UP.
WITH YOUR BAGS...?
I...I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT HERE...
...AND I WAS WORRIED TO LEAVE IT IN MY ROOM...!
CLUTCH
......
I THOUGHT...
...YOU WERE MAD AT ME FOR SOME REASON.
YOU NEVER GOT UP THE WHOLE TIME WE WERE AT THE BEACH...
YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO TALK TO ME.
EH...?

WAIT-- AREN'T YOU MAD AT HIM?
AREN'T YOU PISSED OFF ABOUT MS. FUKUSHIMA?!
NO...
I WAS JUST TIRED.
THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?!!
I WASN'T MAD AT ALL.
REALLY?
I COULD DROWN IN HIS EYES.
...REALLY...
IT'S NOT FAIR.

WITH YOUR EYES...
...WITH YOUR ARMS.
YOU CAN CATCH ME WITHOUT EVEN BATTING A LASH.
YOU'RE SEXY... ♫
SEXY...

WHIRL
I FELL FOR HIM--
IN A BIG WAY--
I'M GONNA DROWN IN YOUR EYES!
...ACHOO!


WHERE WERE YOU?
WALKING.
WITH YOUR BAG?
THERE'S A FREE LESSON AFTER THE DINNER.
AREN'T YOU GOING?
HMM...
TELL THEM I'M STUCK IN BED WITH CHRONIC PROLAPSE OF THE ANUS.
YOU TELL THEM.
TOUCH

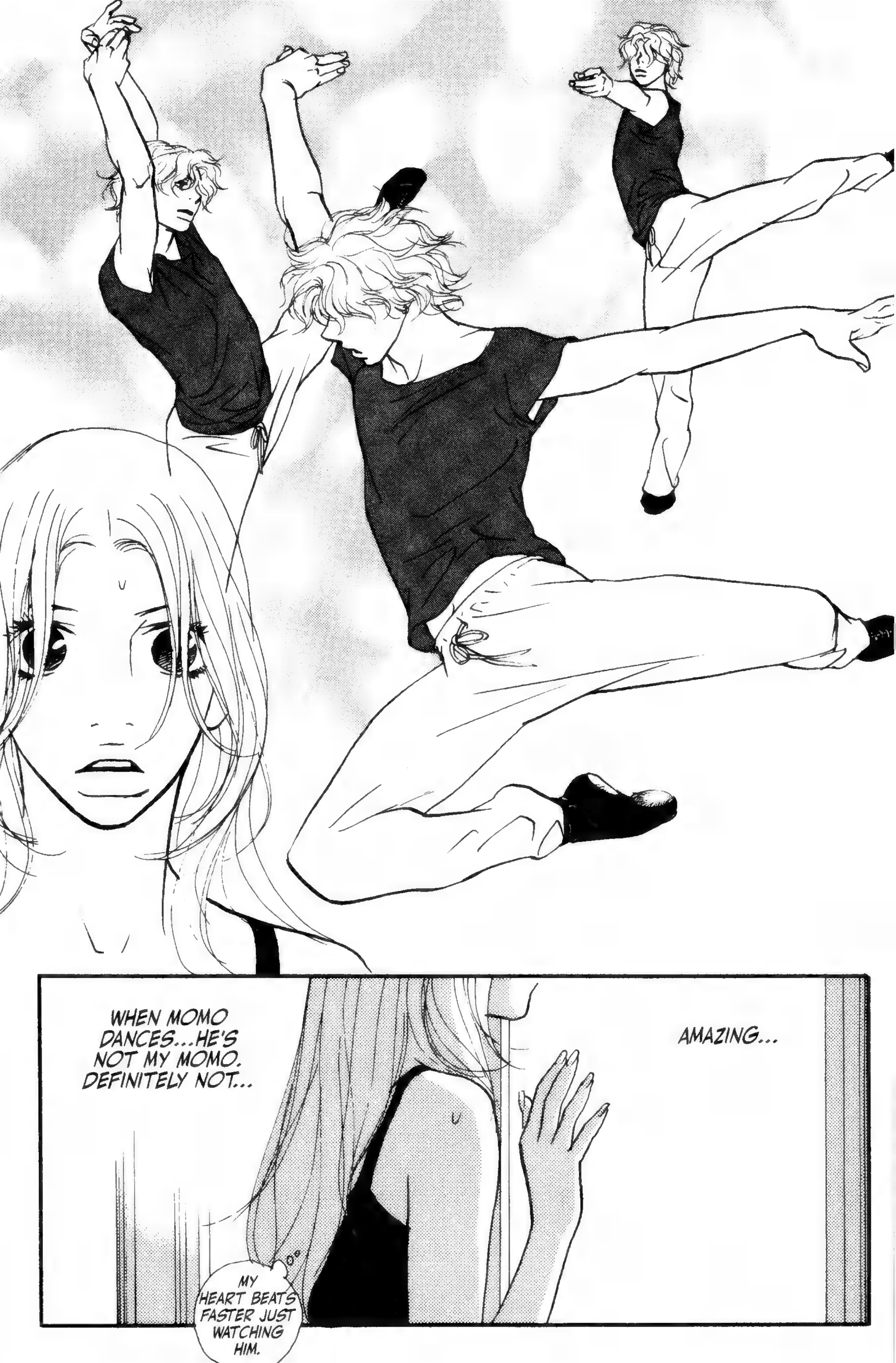
I'M SKIPPING THE LESSON, TOO...
I HAVE NO CHOICE.
I'M LONELY AND NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO.
A SYMPTOM OF HOMESICKNESS, RIGHT?
IT'S GOING TO BE A SINFUL SUMMER.

RULE 15: ONCE BITTEN...

DOROTHY WEARS RUBY SLIPPERS...
...CLICKS HER HEELS TOGETHER...
...AND THEN...WHAT DID SHE SAY?
THE EMPLOYEE TRIP PARTY IS IN FULL SWING.
KYA!
CRACKLE
AHA, HA, HA, HA!
HEY, MR. ISHIDA, DON'T SPIN FIREWORKS! IT'S DANGEROUS.
EH, SOBER UP ALREADY. YOU'RE HIGH ENOUGH ALREADY...
AND I REALLY DON'T WANNA SEE YOUR UNDERWEAR.

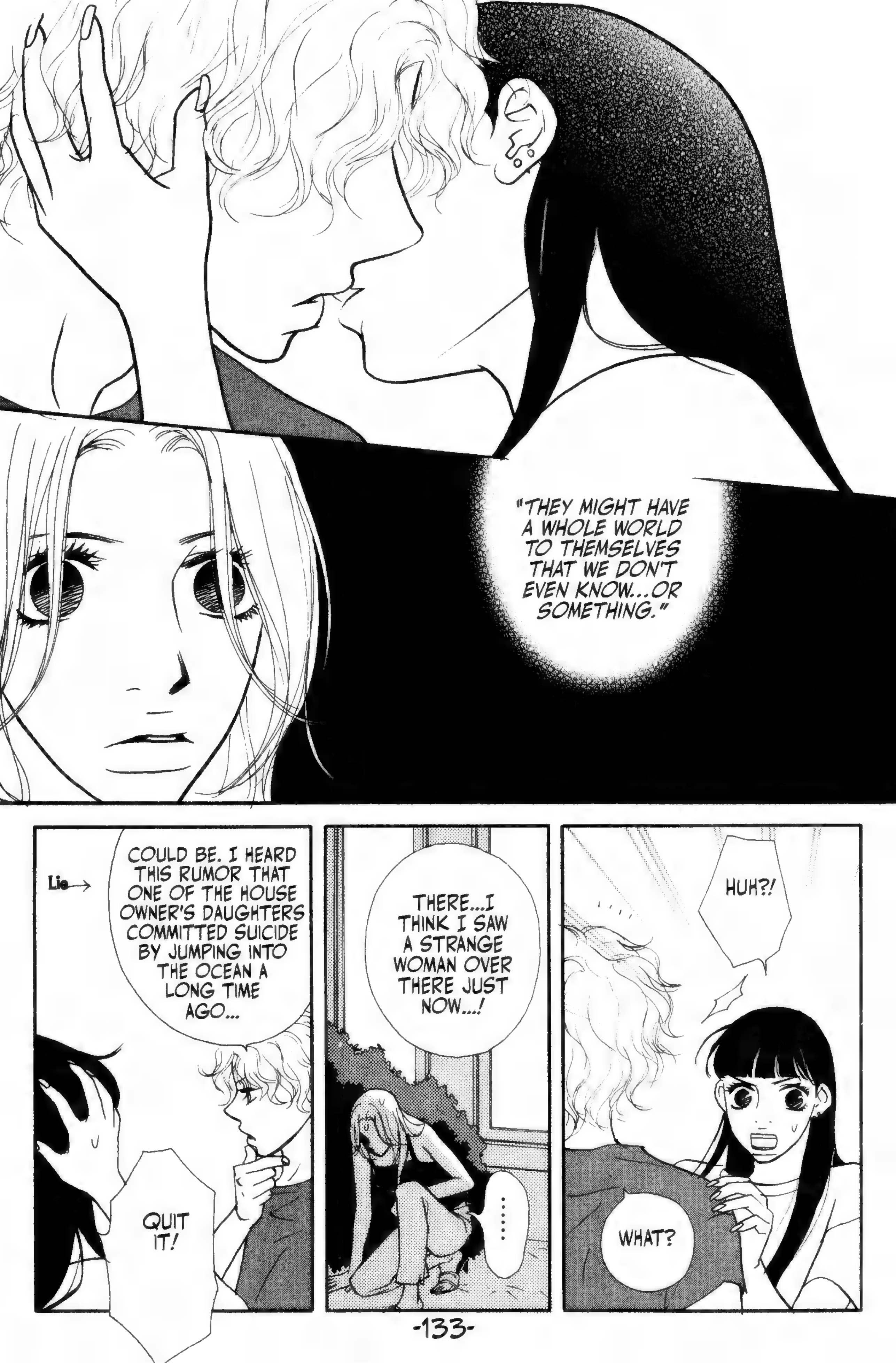
She likes to bundle a few sparklers together.
CRACKLE
Though it burns out sooner, since it's so heavy.
OOPS.
FIZZ
I DUNNO. MS. IWAYA IS VERY QUIET, AFTER ALL.
...
I WONDER IF IT WAS A BAD IDEA TO INVITE HER TO THE FIREWORKS.
A bit sad
Ms. Fukushima, who annoyed everyone, wasn't invited.
REALLY ?!
チラ
"LET'S GO HOME... SHALL WE?"
"OKAY."
MOMO...
WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM AFTER THAT...?

WHERE ARE THE ROCKETS? I WANT ROCKETS!
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT.
IT'S DARK...
I WONDER IF EVERYONE IS ALREADY ASLEEP...
OH.
THE LIGHT'S ON IN THAT ROOM.

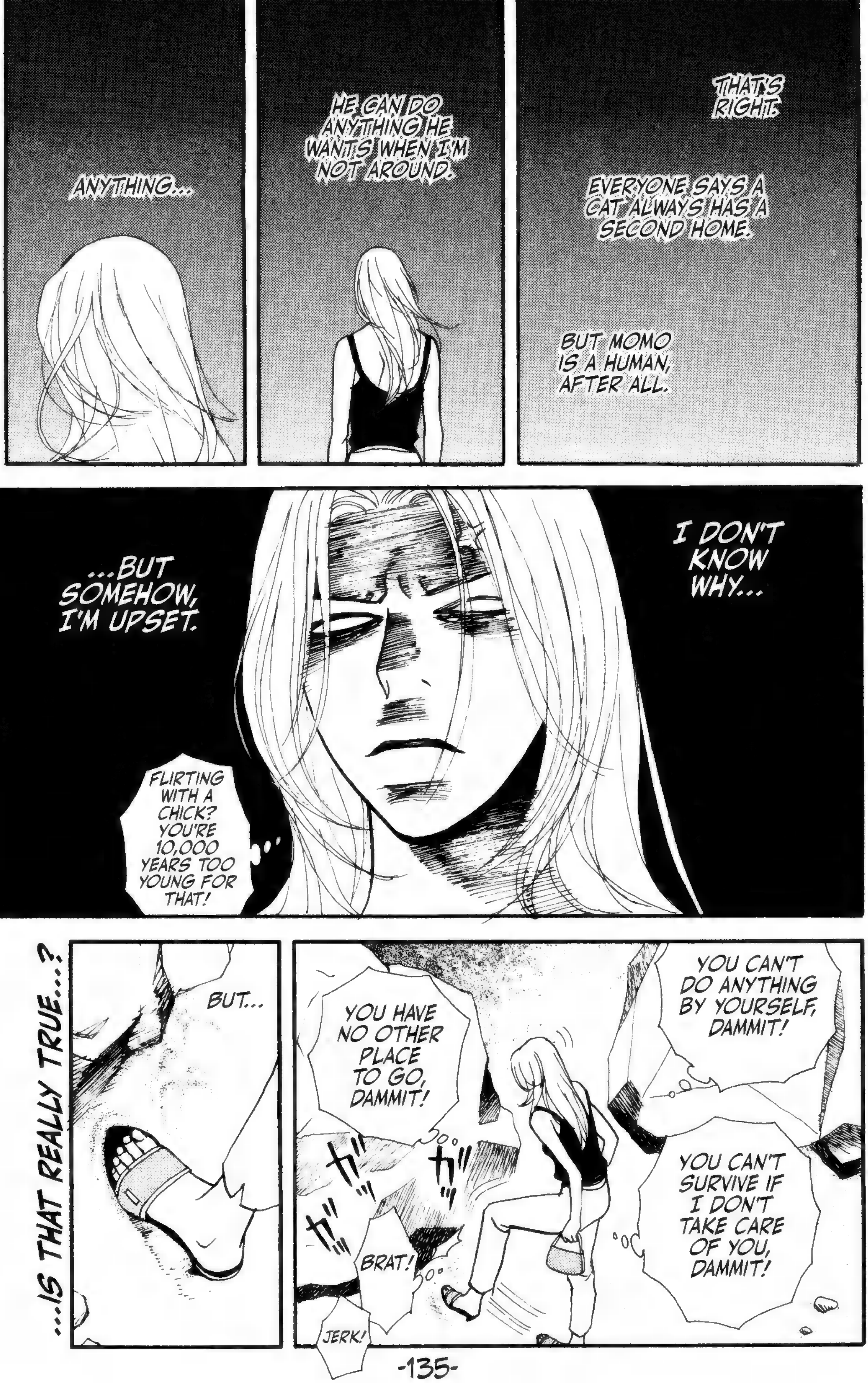


AMAZING...
WHEN MOMO DANCES...HE'S NOT MY MOMO. DEFINITELY NOT...
MY HEART BEATS FASTER JUST WATCHING HIM.

OH, YEAH.
I SHOULD AT LEAST APOLOGIZE TO HIM...
MO...
"DON'T YOU WONDER ABOUT IT SOMETIMES?"
"WHAT YOUR PET DOES WHILE YOU'RE GONE?"
"WHAT IF THEY DON'T MISS US AS MUCH AS WE MISS THEM?"


"THEY MIGHT HAVE A WHOLE WORLD TO THEMSELVES THAT WE DON'T EVEN KNOW...OR SOMETHING."
Lie→
COULD BE. I HEARD THIS RUMOR THAT ONE OF THE HOUSE OWNER'S DAUGHTERS COMMITTED SUICIDE BY JUMPING INTO THE OCEAN A LONG TIME AGO...
QUIT IT!
THERE...I THINK I SAW A STRANGE WOMAN OVER THERE JUST NOW...!
......
HUH?!
WHAT?

COME TO THINK OF IT... SHE LOOKED KIND OF... REGRETFUL...
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
......
SHOULDN'T YOU BE GOING TO BED, RUMI?
IT'S ALMOST ONE O'CLOCK.
I CAN'T SLEEP AFTER HEARING SUCH A SCARY STORY...!
TAKESHI, YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT DANCING, AREN'T YOU?
YOU MAY HAVE BLOWN OFF THE CLASS...
...BUT EVERYONE ELSE IS IN BED AND YOU'RE STILL PRACTICING!
NO...IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. I JUST CAN'T SLEEP, SOMEHOW.
I THOUGHT MAYBE IF I MOVED ENOUGH, I'D GET TIRED.
I EVEN DID A HUNDRED PIROU-ETTES.
A ballet technique of spinning on one leg
THAT'LL MAKE YOU FAINT, NOT SLEEPY!
YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT!
I SEE.
I GUESS HE'S HAVING A GOOD TIME AFTER ALL.


THAT'S RIGHT.
EVERYONE SAYS A CAT ALWAYS HAS A SECOND HOME.
BUT MOMO IS A HUMAN, AFTER ALL.
HE CAN DO ANYTHING HE WANTS WHEN I'M NOT AROUND.
ANYTHING...
I DON'T KNOW WHY...
...BUT SOMEHOW, I'M UPSET.
FLIRTING WITH A CHICK? YOU'RE 10,000 YEARS TOO YOUNG FOR THAT!
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY YOURSELF, DAMMIT!
YOU CAN'T SURVIVE IF I DON'T TAKE CARE OF YOU, DAMMIT!
YOU HAVE NO OTHER PLACE TO GO, DAMMIT!
BRAT!
JERK!
BUT...
...IS THAT REALLY TRUE...?

OH, MS. IWAYA--HERE YOU ARE.
S... HASUMI SENPAI...
YOU WANT THE LAST CAN OF BEER?
EVERYONE ALREADY CLEANED UP AND WENT BACK TO THE HOTEL.
OH.
DID THEY?
OH! THIS SMELL...
...NIGHT-BLOOMING JASMINE. IT'S BEEN SO LONG!
WHAT? ARE YOU LOOKING AT THE TREE?
UH, YES.
THERE'S A TREE JUST LIKE THIS IN THE COURTYARD OF THE HONG KONG OFFICE.
IT'S SUCH A STRONG... BEAUTIFUL... SMELL...
C'MERE, TAKESHI.
SOMETHING SMELLS REALLY GOOD.

IT BLOOMS IN THE EVENING.
PRETTY ROMANTIC, HUH!
IT SMELLS LIKE THE FRAGRANCE IN MY BATHROOM...
DOESN'T IT FEEL... SOMEHOW... ROMANTIC?
SMELLS LIKE SUMIRE'S BATHROOM TO ME.
ARE YOU GOING TO WORK TOMORROW, MS. IWAYA?
AH, YES... I'M GOING DIRECTLY FROM HERE.
I THINK I'LL TAKE OFF EARLY, THOUGH.
HEY...DID YOU HEAR SOMEONE TALKING?
TALKING?
I'M OFF TO-MOR-ROW, TOO.
SAY...WHEN YOU LEAVE THE OFFICE, LET ME KNOW. I'LL COME PICK YOU UP.
YOU HAVE SO MUCH STUFF TO CARRY...
EH... I'LL BE FINE.
Y-YOU THINK IT'S THE OWNER'S DAUGH-TER...?
OH... THAT VOICE ....!
NO-- SCRATCH THAT.
THIS IS ALL JUST A LAME EXCUSE TO COME TO YOUR APARTMENT.
SENPAI... HE'S DRUNK, ISN'T HE...?
HIS EYES LOOK DIFFERENT...
I SEE...

......
......?
FIX
がばっ
WHOA!
AH...
YOU'RE KIDDING. HERE?!
S-SENPAI...
I'LL TAKE A LOOK.
ARE YOU SURE? BE CAREFUL.

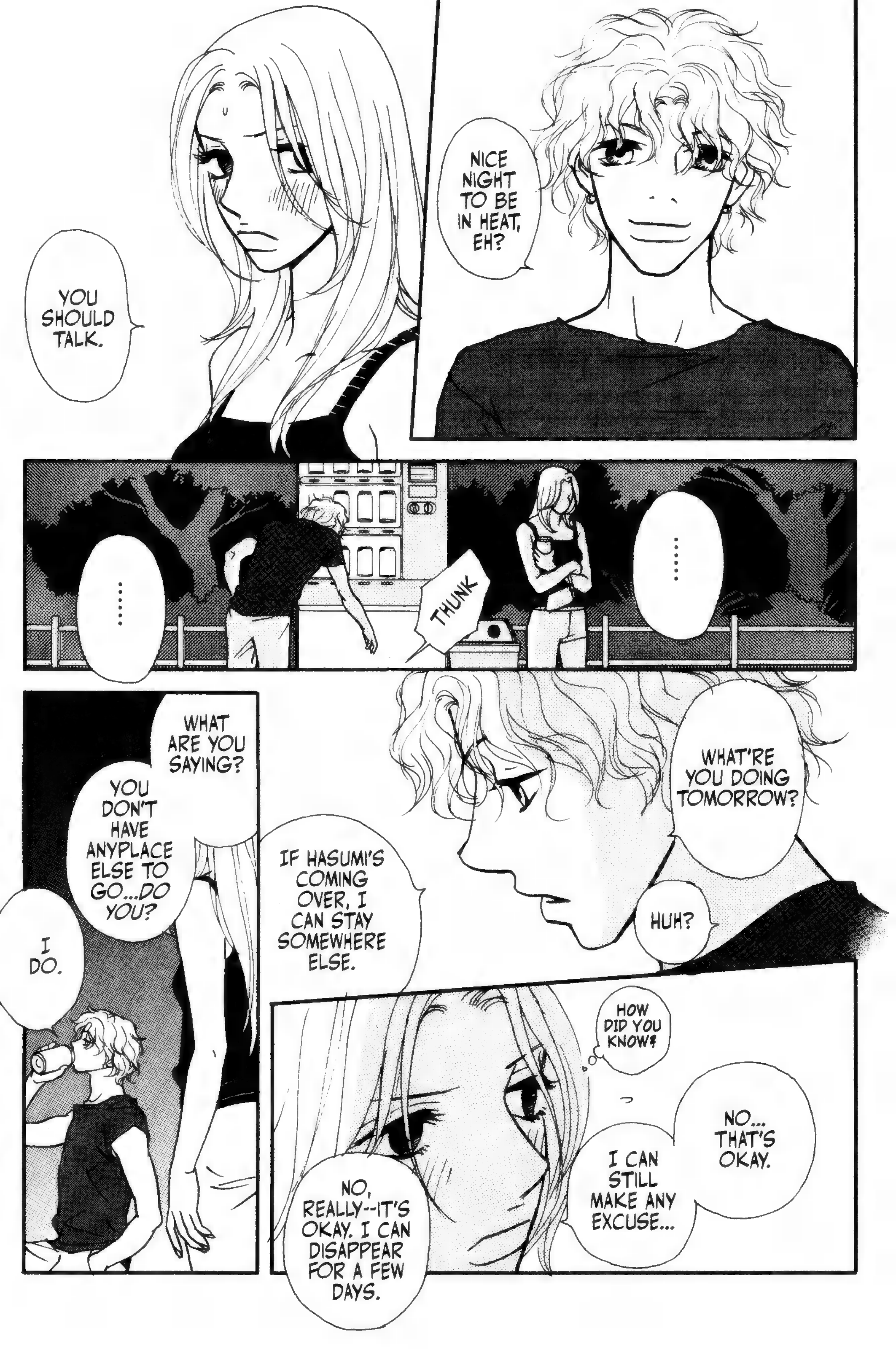
......
WHAT? IS ANYTHING DOWN THERE?
JUST SOME HORNY COUPLE.
THAT'S IT?
HE SAW US!
MOMO SAW ME!
SENPAI!
HASUMI SENPAI!

HEY...
I FEEL A BIT...
...STRANGE ...TOO.
RUMI...YOUR BOOBS ARE TOUCHING MY BACK.
DON'T SAY OUT LOUD WHAT YOU KNOW I'M DOING ON PURPOSE.
SORRY.
SOMEONE IS UPSTAIRS...
DON'T WORRY. NOBODY KNOWS US HERE.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?!
IN THE IMMORTAL WORDS OF CHOSUKE IKARIYA ... THIS ISN'T GOOD.
THE ALCOHOL IS JUST MAKING HIM HORNIER!
WHAT DO I DO? WHAT DO I DO?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK? JUST DO IT.
WHY NOT? IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A BAD THING.

DON'T YOU FEEL GOOD?
DON'T YOU WANNA LET HIM DO IT?
SO WHAT IF YOUR PET SAW YOU? WHAT ABOUT IT?
Embodiment of Sumire's instinct... Black Violet
NO--DON'T DO IT! AREN'T YOU ASHAMED?
YOU KNOW YOU'RE GONNA LOSE YOUR RESPECT AS A MASTER, RIGHT?!
Embodiment of Sumire's reason... Violet Blanche
SO WHAT?
STOP IT!
DON'T YOU FEEL GOOD?
AREN'T YOU ASHAMED?
I'M SORRY...
...I CAN'T.
NOT HERE.

BLANCHE WON.

UH, SORRY... I DON'T HAVE A CONDOM.
I KNOW, I KNOW.
BUT WE HAVE TO BE RESPONSIBLE ABOUT THIS KINDA THING.
......
He also came to.
AH...YOU'RE RIGHT. A PLACE LIKE THIS ISN'T...
I'M SORRY.
....
....
WELL...I'M GONNA GET SOMETHING TO DRINK.
I'M... REALLY THIRSTY...
OH--I CAN GET IT.
NO, I'LL GO. IT'S NEARBY.
BESIDES... I DON'T THINK YOU'RE WALKING TOO WELL...
AH... YEAH... MAYBE NOT.
THUNK
KARIN
....

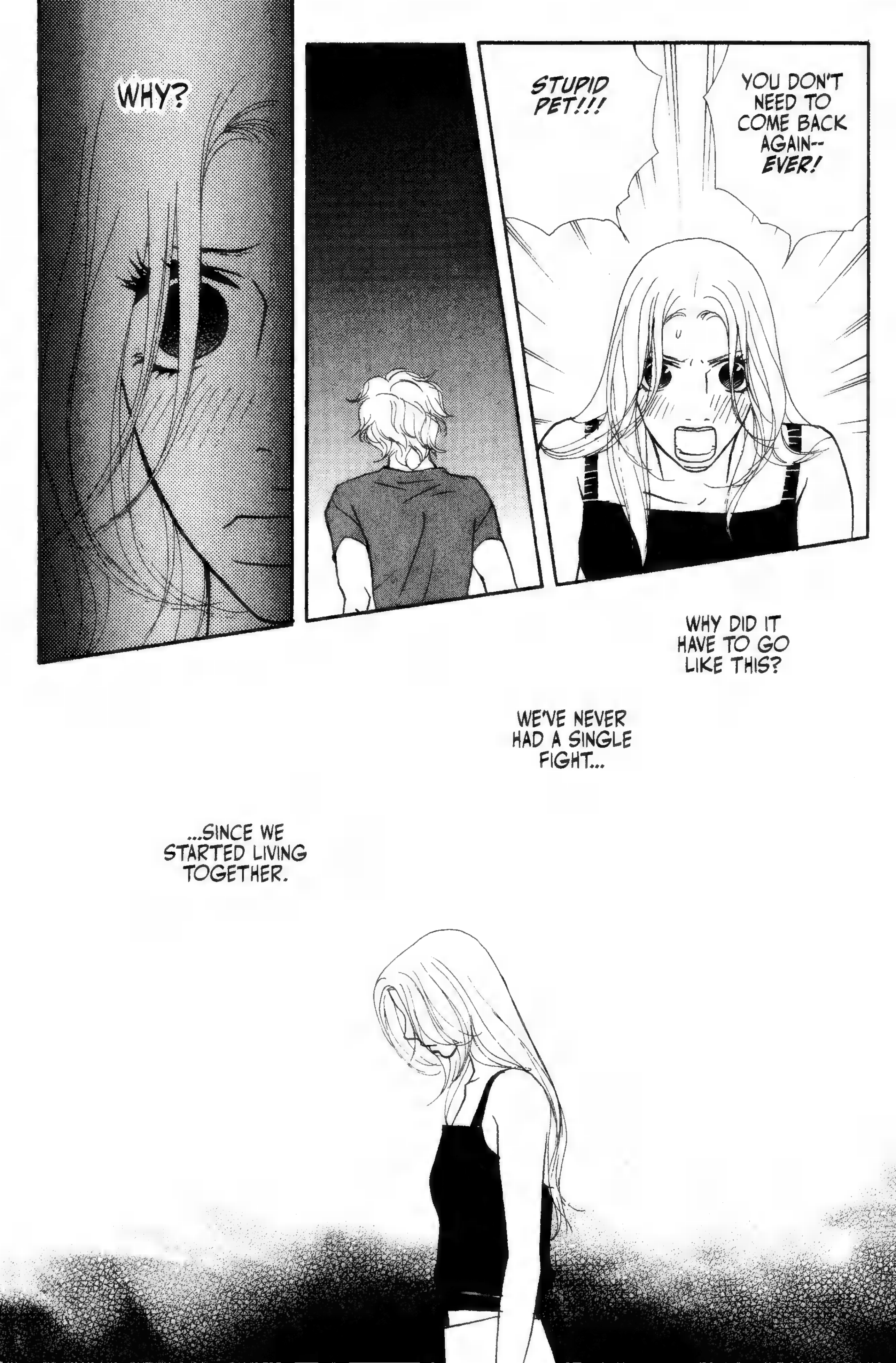

NICE NIGHT TO BE IN HEAT, EH?
YOU SHOULD TALK.
......
THUNK
......
WHAT'RE YOU DOING TOMORROW?
HUH?
IF HASUMI'S COMING OVER, I CAN STAY SOMEWHERE ELSE.
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
NO... THAT'S OKAY.
I CAN STILL MAKE ANY EXCUSE...
NO, REALLY--IT'S OKAY. I CAN DISAPPEAR FOR A FEW DAYS.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
YOU DON'T HAVE ANYPLACE ELSE TO GO...DO YOU?
I DO.

CRACK
YOU LIE.
ARE YOU KIDDING? THREE DAYS IS NOTHING.
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY YOURSELF, CAN YOU?
I'VE GOT SOME MONEY.
YOU CAN'T SURVIVE WITHOUT ME TAKING CARE OF YOU, CAN YOU?
AND WITH MY DASHING GOOD LOOKS, I HAVE SO MANY WOMEN WHO ARE WILLING TO FEED ME.
GRIN

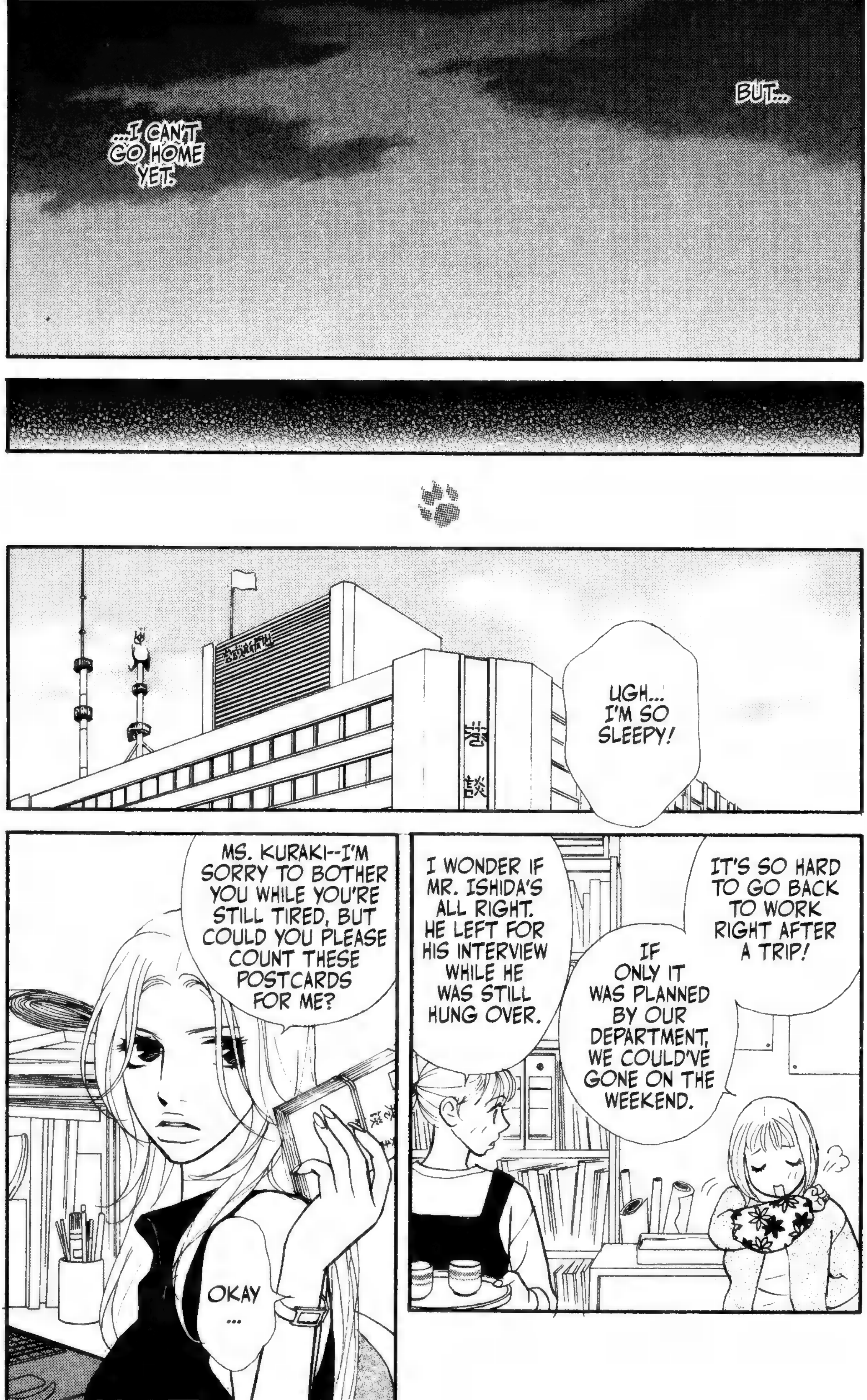
EVEN IF YOU DON'T TAKE CARE OF ME, SUMIRE...
...I'M NOT GONNA DIE.
AH-- I SEE.
WELL, THEN...
...DON'T COME BACK FOR A WHILE.

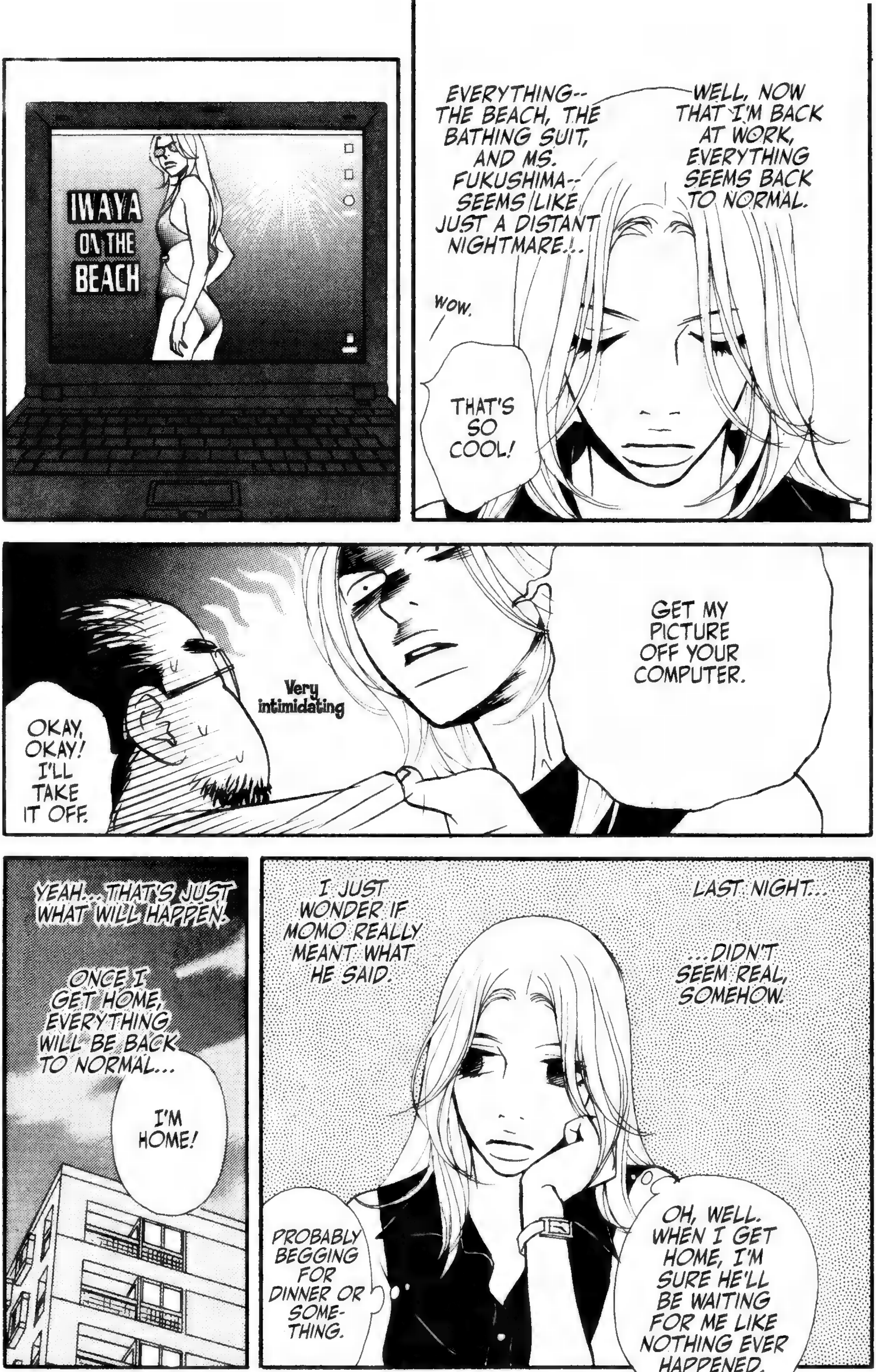
ROGER THAT.
WELL, THEN...
...ENJOY YOUR SEX.
HOW DARE YOU SAY...!
GRAB
BUMP
UHH...
?

CLANK
WELL...
...BYE-
BYE.

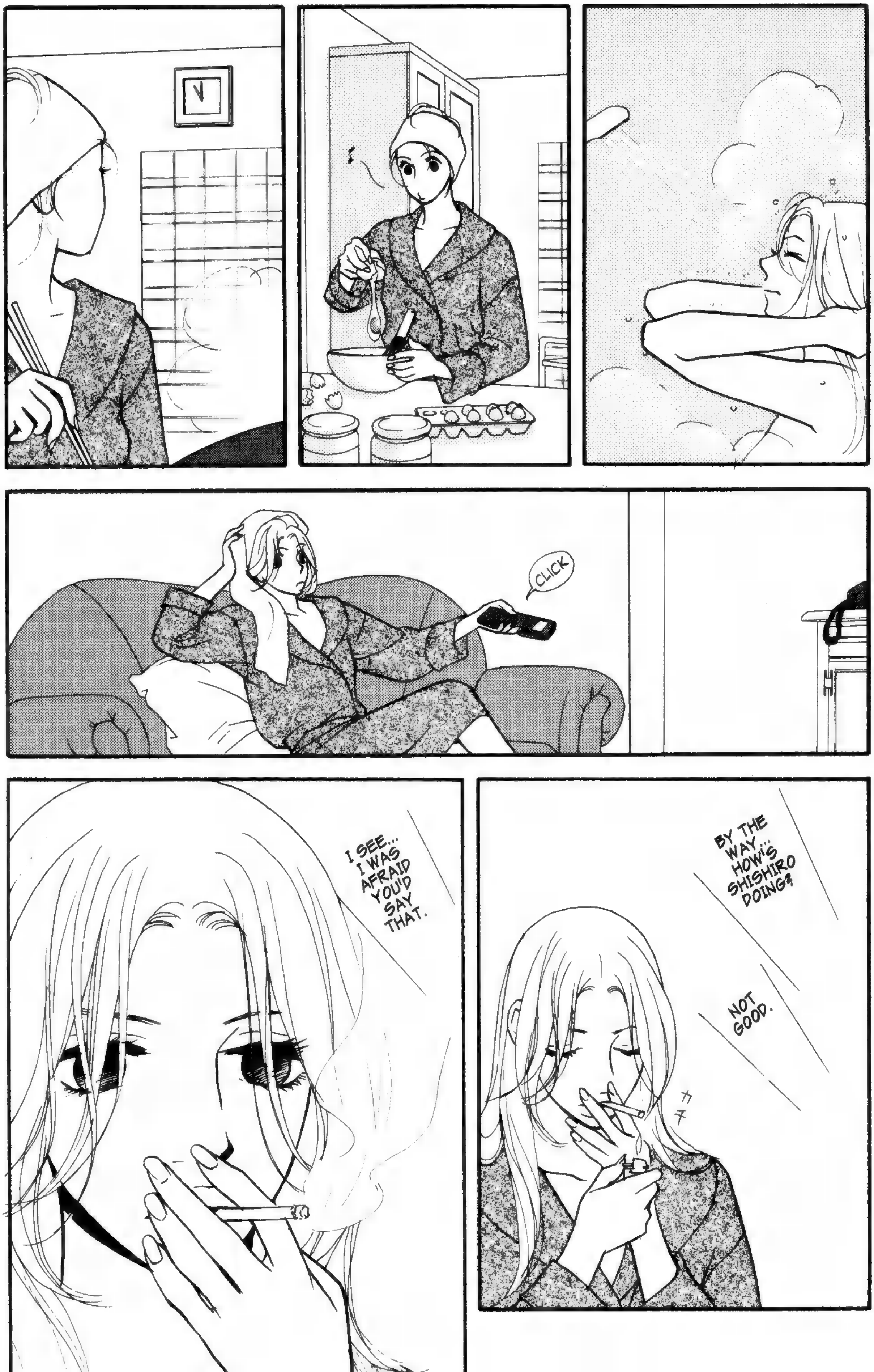

YOU DON'T NEED TO COME BACK AGAIN-- EVER!
STUPID PET!!!
WHY?
WHY DID IT HAVE TO GO LIKE THIS?
WE'VE NEVER HAD A SINGLE FIGHT...
...SINCE WE STARTED LIVING TOGETHER.

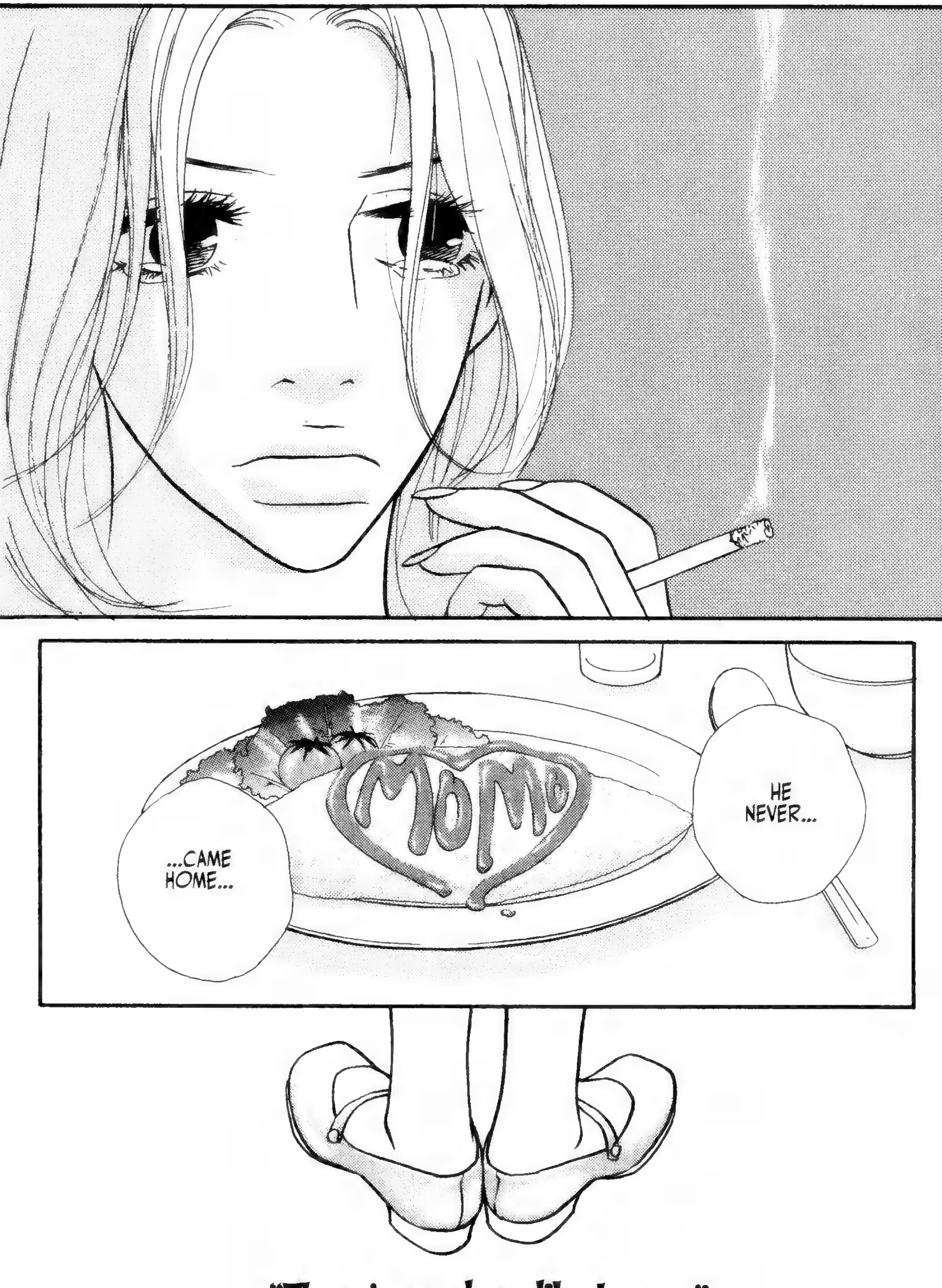
IF WE HAD JUST GONE HOME TOGETHER...
...I BET WE'D BE TOGETHER AS USUAL BY NOW...
I JUST REMEMBERED THE SPELL.
DOROTHY WEARS RUBY SLIPPERS...
...CLICKS HER HEELS TOGETHER THREE TIMES...
...AND SAYS, "THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME."
THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME.
THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME.
JUST THOSE WORDS, AND YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY BACK TO HOME SWEET HOME.
I DON'T LOSE!


BUT...
...I CAN'T GO HOME YET.
UGH... I'M SO SLEEPY!
IT'S SO HARD TO GO BACK TO WORK RIGHT AFTER A TRIP!
IF ONLY IT WAS PLANNED BY OUR DEPARTMENT, WE COULD'VE GONE ON THE WEEKEND.
I WONDER IF MR. ISHIDA'S ALL RIGHT. HE LEFT FOR HIS INTERVIEW WHILE HE WAS STILL HUNG OVER.
MS. KURAKI--I'M SORRY TO BOTHER YOU WHILE YOU'RE STILL TIRED, BUT COULD YOU PLEASE COUNT THESE POSTCARDS FOR ME?
OKAY ...


WELL, NOW THAT I'M BACK AT WORK, EVERYTHING SEEMS BACK TO NORMAL.
EVERYTHING-- THE BEACH, THE BATHING SUIT, AND MS. FUKUSHIMA-- SEEMS LIKE JUST A DISTANT NIGHTMARE...
WOW.
THAT'S SO COOL!
IWAYA ON THE BEACH
GET MY PICTURE OFF YOUR COMPUTER.
Very intimidating
OKAY, OKAY! I'LL TAKE IT OFF.
LAST NIGHT...
...DIDN'T SEEM REAL, SOMEHOW.
I JUST WONDER IF MOMO REALLY MEANT WHAT HE SAID.
OH, WELL. WHEN I GET HOME, I'M SURE HE'LL BE WAITING FOR ME LIKE NOTHING EVER HAPPENED.
PROBABLY BEGGING FOR DINNER OR SOME-THING.
YEAH... THAT'S JUST WHAT WILL HAPPEN.
ONCE I GET HOME, EVERYTHING WILL BE BACK TO NORMAL...
I'M HOME!

UGH, I'M TIRED.
EGGS WERE ON SALE TODAY, SO I'M MAKING YOUR FAVORITE--OMERICE!
NO WAY.
HE HASN'T BEEN BACK YET.


CLICK
BY THE WAY... HOW'S SHISHIRO DOING?
NOT GOOD.
カチ
I SEE... I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY THAT.



"There's no place like home..."

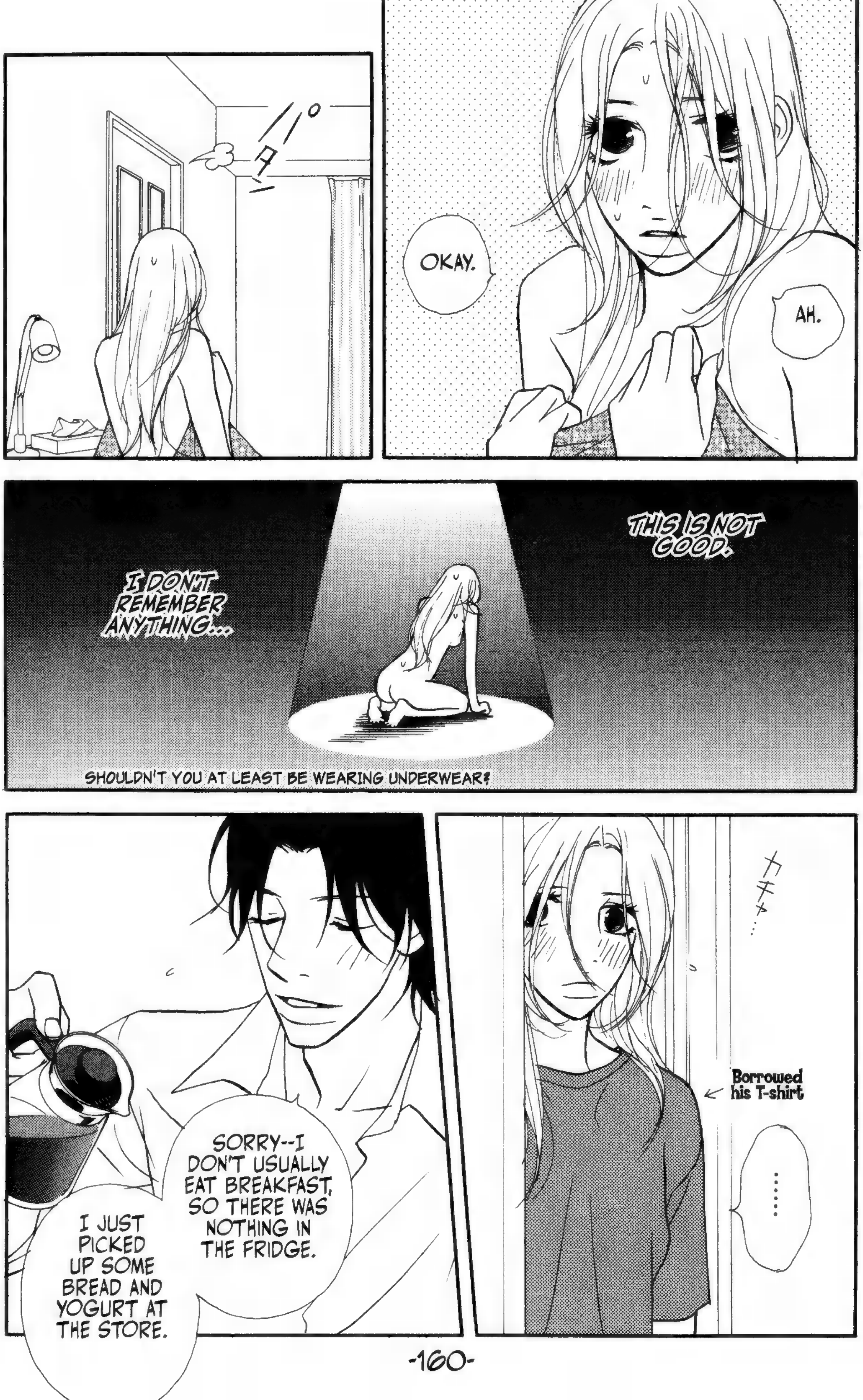
Over the rainbow
厚切り
ポテト
RULE 16: THE HOMING INSTINCT

I'LL BET SHE BOUGHT THIS STUFF AT A DEPARTMENT STORE SUPERMARKET.
FOOD ALL RIGHT, TAKESHI?
LOOKS EXPENSIVE.
UH, YES. VERY.
...TERRIBLE, THAT IS.
MY MASTER TONIGHT IS ERIKA, A BALLERINA.
GLAD TO HEAR IT.
FOR A WORLD-FAMOUS PRIMA DONNA, HER COOKING ISN'T TOO HOT.
AND I KNOW SHE DOESN'T WASH THE DISHES.
WHAT IF SHE BROKE A NAIL TO REVEAL ONE OF THOSE LONG, SLIM FINGERS?
SORRY I HAD TO SERVE THAT IN DOGGY BAGS.
I USUALLY EAT OUT, SO I DON'T HAVE ANY DISHES.

WHAT'S WRONG?
......
I'M JUST WONDERING IF I'M NOT REALLY PUMPED BECAUSE IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I WAS IN THIS SITUATION.
HUH?
NEVER MIND.
WAIT A SECOND. OH, NO.
I ALMOST FORGOT. THIS WAS MY LIFE UNTIL LAST YEAR.
THEY'RE ALL GONE.
YOU'LL GO BUY CONDOMS FOR ME, WON'T YOU? IT'S MY DANGEROUS DAY.
THERE'S A CONVENIENCE STORE JUST DOWN THE HILL ON YOUR RIGHT.

I'M NOT SURE...
...IT'S SUCH A GOOD IDEA TO SEND A STUPID CREATURE LIKE ME, WITH NO SENSE OF DIRECTION, ON AN ERRAND.
ROGER.
I TOLD YOU. I GOT LOST-- I CAN'T GO BACK TO YOUR PLACE!
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO FIND SOME OTHER MASTER.
THE FOOD WAS TERRIBLE, ANYWAY.

IT'S 9 A.M.
AND I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I'M IN BED AT MR. HASUMI'S APARTMENT.
And she's naked.
CLACK
びくっ
OH... YOU'RE AWAKE?
I'M MAKING COFFEE-- WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A SHOWER NOW?


AH.
OKAY.
パタ
THIS IS NOT GOOD.
I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING...
SHOULDN'T YOU AT LEAST BE WEARING UNDERWEAR?
カチャ…
Borrowed his T-shirt
......
SORRY--I DON'T USUALLY EAT BREAKFAST, SO THERE WAS NOTHING IN THE FRIDGE.
I JUST PICKED UP SOME BREAD AND YOGURT AT THE STORE.

WELL...
ABOUT LAST NIGHT...I THINK I WAS...QUITE DRUNK...SO...
...I...I'M AFRAID I DID SOMETHING WRONG.
HE'S ALL SMILES...
ニッコ
ニッコ
ニッコ
HE'S BLUSH-ING...?!
NO...NOT AT ALL.
IT'S JUST... I STILL HAD THIS LINGERING IMAGE OF HOW YOU WERE IN COLLEGE...
...SO I WAS A LITTLE AMAZED TO SEE THAT SIDE OF YOU...!
WHAT DID I DO...?!
WHAT? THIS IS GREAT. YOU'RE NOW OFFICIALLY HIS LOVER--BOTH IN NAME AND REALITY!
CONGRATU-LATIONS--!
ぱちぱち
ぱちぱち

I WOULDN'T CALL IT GREAT... I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING! WEREN'T YOU LISTENING?
IT'S SCARY--!
OKAY, SO YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN DRUNK.
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE.
NOT ONLY THAT-- ACCORDING TO HIM, I ASKED IF I COULD STAY AT HIS PLACE FOR A WHILE...
YOU DON'T REMEMBER THAT, EITHER?
ALL THAT NIGHT...
...I WAITED FOR MOMO TO COME BACK.
BUT IT FELT LIKE HE WOULD NEVER COME BACK, NO MATTER HOW LONG I WAITED.
I GOT SO SCARED...
YOU DON'T NEED TO COME BACK AGAIN, *EVER!*
SO I STARTED TO DRINK...AND DRINK...BUT THAT DIDN'T WORK, EITHER.
IT GOT TO THE POINT WHERE I COULDN'T STAND TO BE ALONE ANYMORE...

SO YOU LEFT HOME, WITH NO OTHER PLACE TO GO...
...AND FINALLY ENDED UP AT MR. HASUMI'S PLACE.
HOW TERRIBLE. YOU'RE JUST A TROUBLESOME LITTLE BITCH, AREN'T YOU?
BUT--!! HE WAS BEING SO INSOLENT!
HE PUT HIS TONGUE IN MY MOUTH!
EEK!
MOST OF ALL, DON'T HAVE A SERIOUS FIGHT WITH YOUR PET.
DON'T FIGHT.
...ALTHOUGH...
...I DID DO SOMETHING BAD TO HIM FIRST.
WELL, WHEN YOU GET HOME TONIGHT...
...HE MIGHT BE WAITING FOR YOU.
YOU'RE RIGHT...

*EDITOR'S NOTE: A GIANT, MONSTEROUS STONE GOD WORSHIPPED IN FEUDAL JAPAN

SO AFTER ALL THAT...
...I WENT BACK TO SENPAI'S PLACE.
I'M HOME!
WELCOME BACK.
Back after midnight
MMM... SOMETHING SMELLS GOOD!
YOU TOLD ME ON THE PHONE YOU WERE A BIT HUNGRY... SO I MADE YOU SOME RICE GREEN TEA SOUP WITH SNAPPER.
OH, DID YOU CLEAN UP IN HERE?
AH--I'M SORRY. JUST A LITTLE.
NO, NO PROBLEM... I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D BE TIRED FROM WORK, TOO.
SINCE I'M STAYING AT YOUR PLACE, IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO.
THAT'S OKAY.
BY THE WAY, I DREW A BATH FOR YOU.

OH, WOW!
YOU'RE THE BEST, MS. IWAYA! ♥
HOT FOR APRONS
WHOA.
MMM-- ♡
OH.
NOW I REALLY HAVE...
...BECOME HIS GIRLFRIEND.
MMM.
I'M GLAD.
THIS IS GOOD...

RING
RING
RING
SNAP
ZZZ
I SHOULDN'T HAVE SCHEDULED THAT INTERVIEW SO EARLY...
BREAK-FAST FOR HASUMI SENPAI.
I SHOULD JUST LEAVE IT FOR HIM TO WARM UP LATER.
UGH--MY BACK IS STIFF!
A SMOKE...
NO. HAVE TO WAIT 'TIL I GO OUTSIDE...
CAFE BALTHUS
SO HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA STAY WITH ME?

LIKE I SAID YESTERDAY, I'LL BE GONE NEXT MONTH.
WELL, THEN-- SOMETIME BEFORE THEN.
SERIOUSLY, YOU DON'T HAVE ANYPLACE ELSE YOU CAN GO?
CAFE BALTHUS
BALTHUS
LUNCH
WELL, TAHITI SOUNDS GREAT.
WHAT? YOU WANNA COME WITH?
THE HOTEL I'M GONNA BE LIVING AND WORKING AT IS RUN BY MY SISTER'S HUSBAND.
I CAN ASK IF YOU CAN STAY THERE TOO, IF YOU WANT.
CLANK
YOU ARE FLUENT IN FRENCH, AFTER ALL.
HMM...
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
WHOA... THAT CHICK IS FIIINE...
THAT DOESN'T SOUND SO BAD...

UGH...
...SO TIRED...
SENPAI WON'T BE BACK UNTIL 2 A.M., AND HE SAID NOT TO WAIT UP FOR HIM.
TAKING THAT AT FACE VALUE, I'M GOING TO BED EARLY.
SCRUBBA SCRUBBA
I WISH WE AT LEAST HAD THE SAME WORK SCHEDULE...
ON SECOND THOUGHT, THAT SOUNDS EVEN MORE EXHAUSTING.
I DON'T REMEMBER IT BEING THIS HARD TO LIVE WITH A MAN (MALE PETS EXCLUDED)...
RATTLE CLICK
CREAK
OOPS...I FELL ASLEEP OUT HERE!
AND LOOKING LIKE THIS NO LESS.
OH!
Bath towel

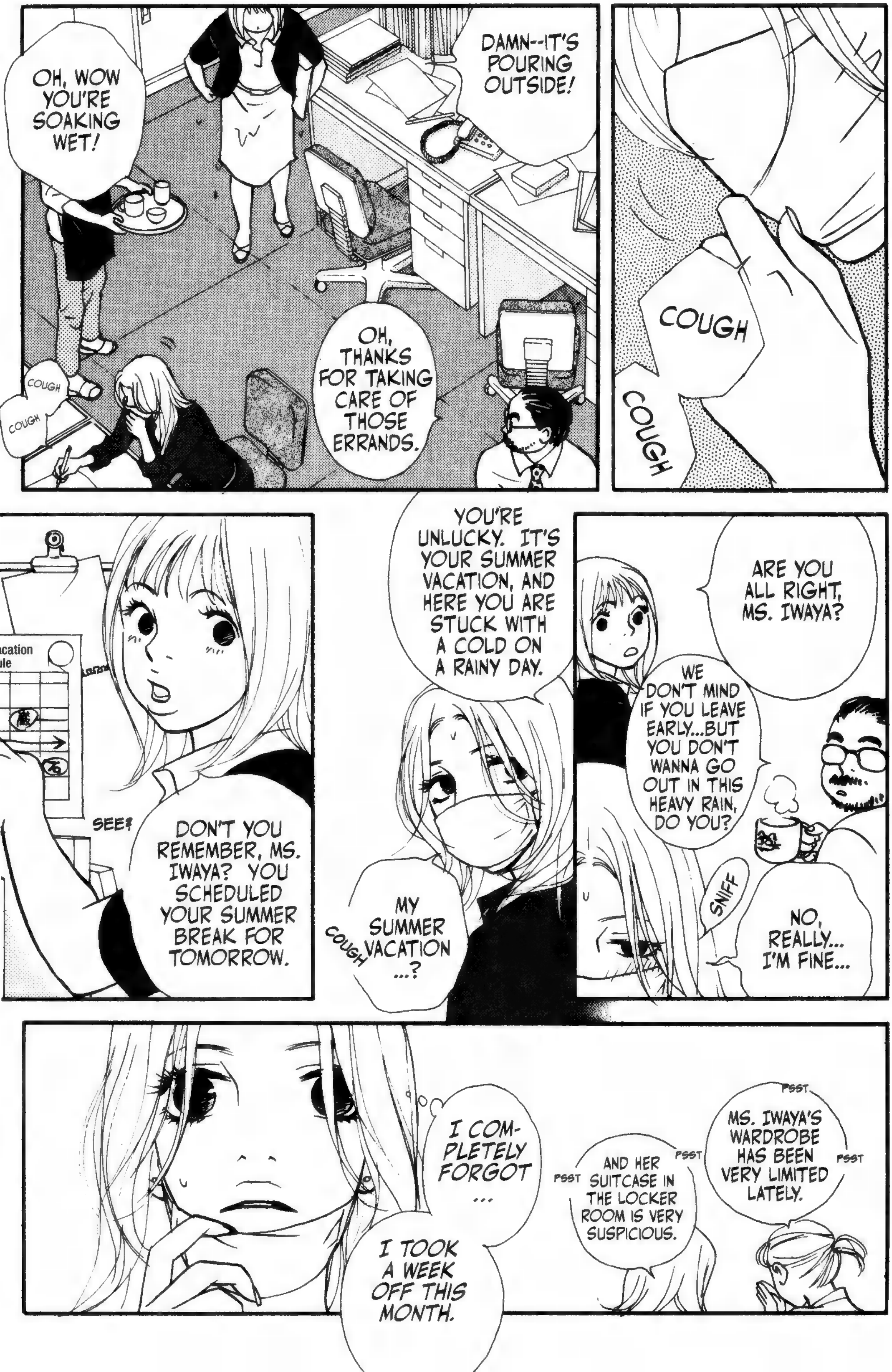
MS. IWAYA...
...YOU WAITED FOR ME.
AWWW...
UH, ACTUALLY... I DIDN'T...
SORRY I'M SO LATE.
SQUEEZE
UMM...
1R
2R
3R
PHEW...
THIS IS NO TIME FOR 'PHEW...'!!!
ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME...?!
CHIRP
CHIRP
Daybreak
THIS IS SUCH A RELIEF.
EVER SINCE WE STARTED LIVING TOGETHER...
...THINGS HAVE BEEN SO GOOD.
EH...?

I FEEL LIKE I COULD DO THIS FOREVER.
......
FOREVER...?
EVERYDAY...?
LIVING LIKE THIS...?
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
......
THOUGH THE SEX WILL PROBABLY DECREASE OVER TIME...

HEY-- YOU WANNA TAKE THAT COUGHING TO YOUR OWN APARTMENT?
I DON'T WANNA GET SICK.
HEGARO
WHAT A COLD SISTER...
AH-CHOO!
LIKE I SAID, MY BOYFRIEND'S COMING OVER TOMORROW.
SO DON'T GET TOO COMFY. TOMORROW YOU'RE OUT.
YES, YES. I KNOW.
BLOW!
I'D BETTER GO HOME NOW...
...I'M WORRIED ABOUT MY DOG. I ASKED MY SISTER TO TAKE CARE OF HER, BUT...
AW... REALLY?
IF I STAYED ONE MORE NIGHT THERE, IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS GONNA PROPOSE MARRIAGE ...
JUST BECAUSE YOU LIKE SOMEONE DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN LIVE WITH THEM.
I WOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT THAT EIGHT YEARS AGO.
BUT NOW I KNOW...
...THAT IT'S VERY SPECIAL TO HAVE SOMEONE YOU CAN COME HOME TO EVERY DAY...

I'M TURNING OFF THE LIGHT.
AKANE?
DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN MOMO DISAPPEARED?
MOMO? OH. YOU MEAN THAT DOG THAT YOU USED TO HAVE?
RIGHT. I WAS IN SIXTH GRADE, AND YOU WERE IN THE SECOND.
WE MADE A BIG FUSS ABOUT HER DISAP-PEARING.
MAYBE YOU DID, SISTER.
AND... REMEMBER WHEN I FOUND HER?
BECAUSE I CAN'T, SOMEHOW...
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T.
SHE CAME BACK BY HERSELF.
EH?

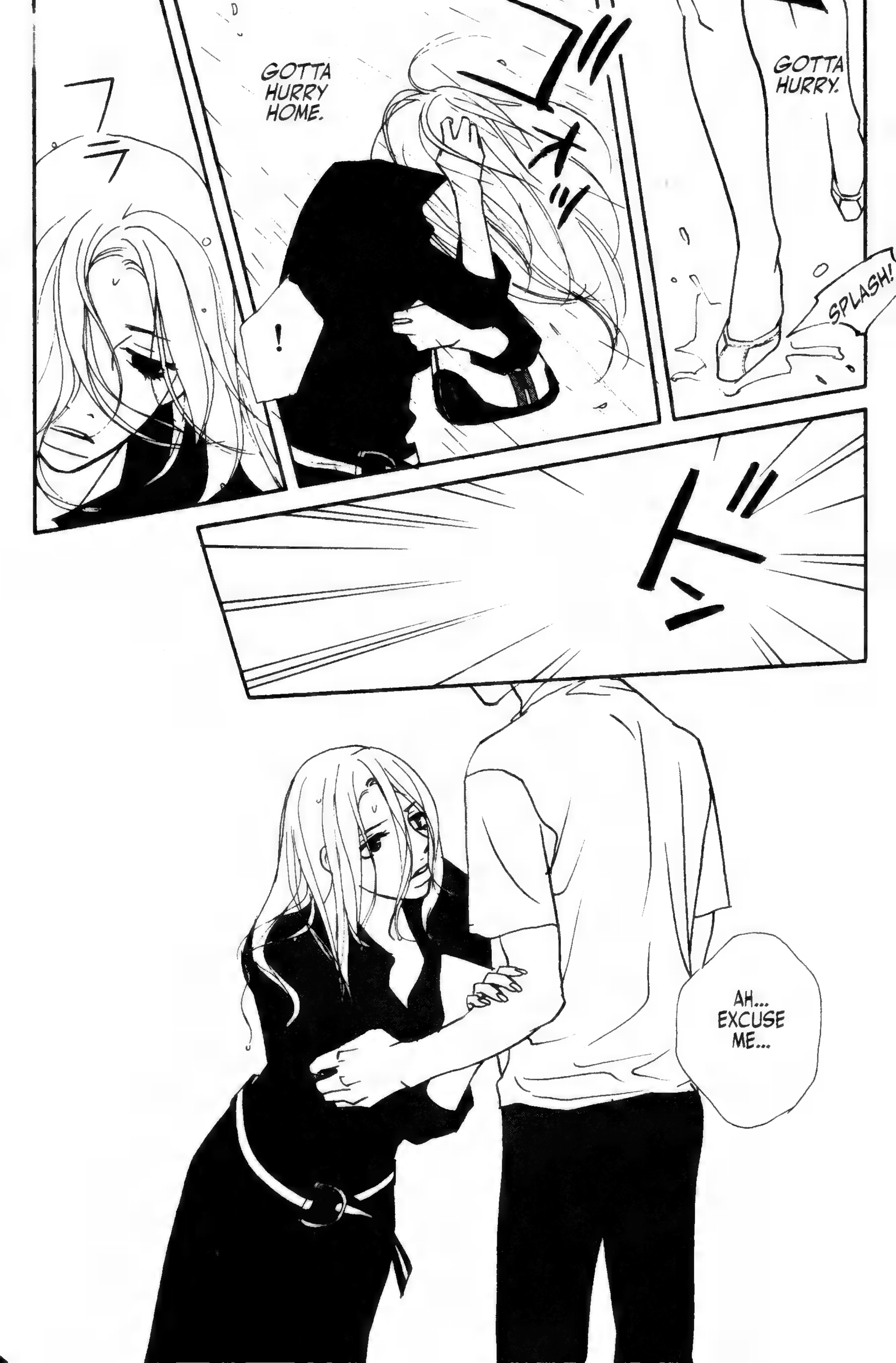
There's no place like home...

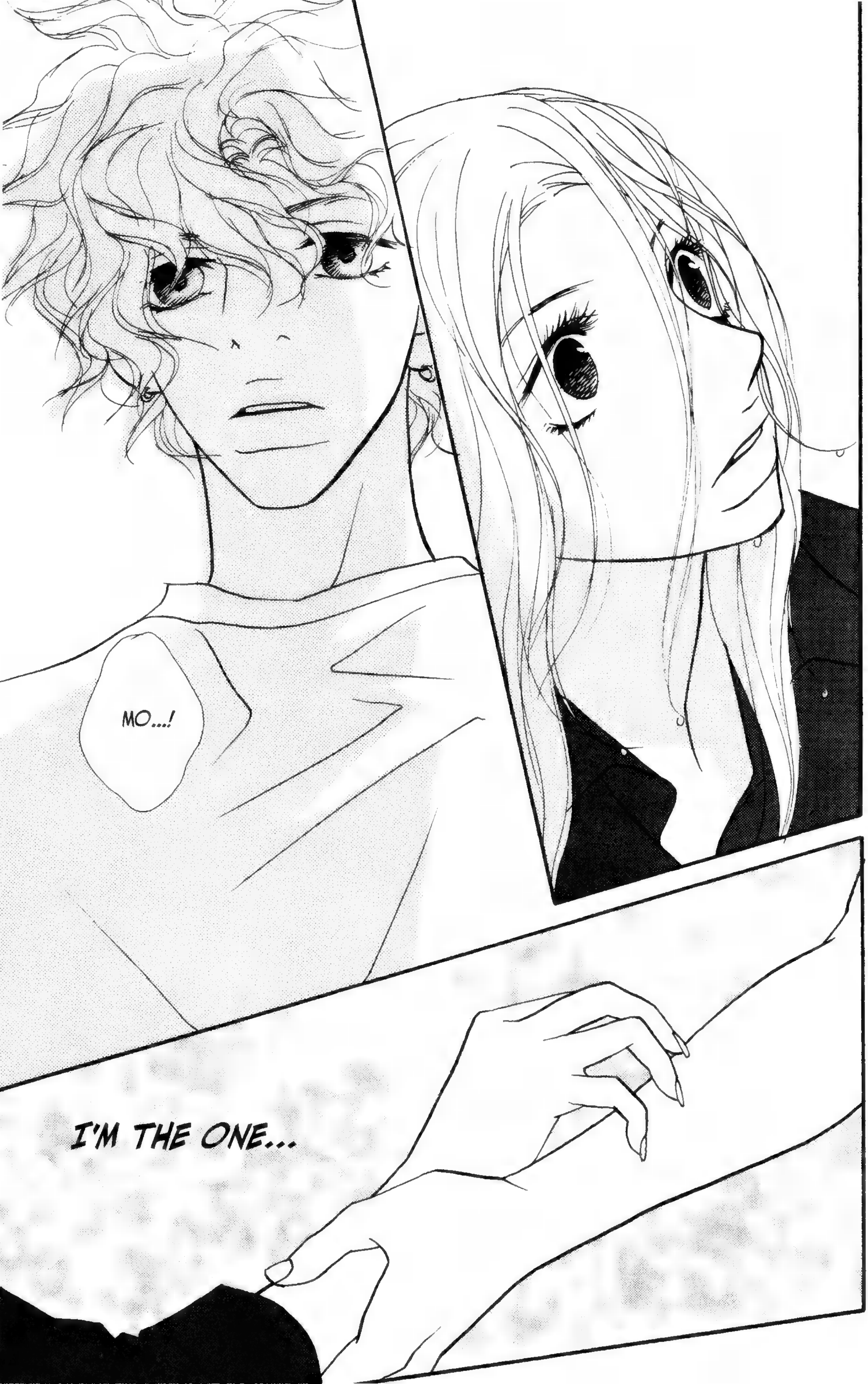


DAMN--IT'S POURING OUTSIDE!
OH, WOW YOU'RE SOAKING WET!
OH, THANKS FOR TAKING CARE OF THOSE ERRANDS.
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MS. IWAYA?
WE DON'T MIND IF YOU LEAVE EARLY...BUT YOU DON'T WANNA GO OUT IN THIS HEAVY RAIN, DO YOU?
SNIFF
NO, REALLY... I'M FINE...
YOU'RE UNLUCKY. IT'S YOUR SUMMER VACATION, AND HERE YOU ARE STUCK WITH A COLD ON A RAINY DAY.
MY SUMMER VACATION ...?
COUGH
SEE?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER, MS. IWAYA? YOU SCHEDULED YOUR SUMMER BREAK FOR TOMORROW.
PSST
MS. IWAYA'S WARDROBE HAS BEEN VERY LIMITED LATELY.
PSST
PSST
AND HER SUITCASE IN THE LOCKER ROOM IS VERY SUSPICIOUS.
PSST
I COMPLETELY FORGOT ...
I TOOK A WEEK OFF THIS MONTH.

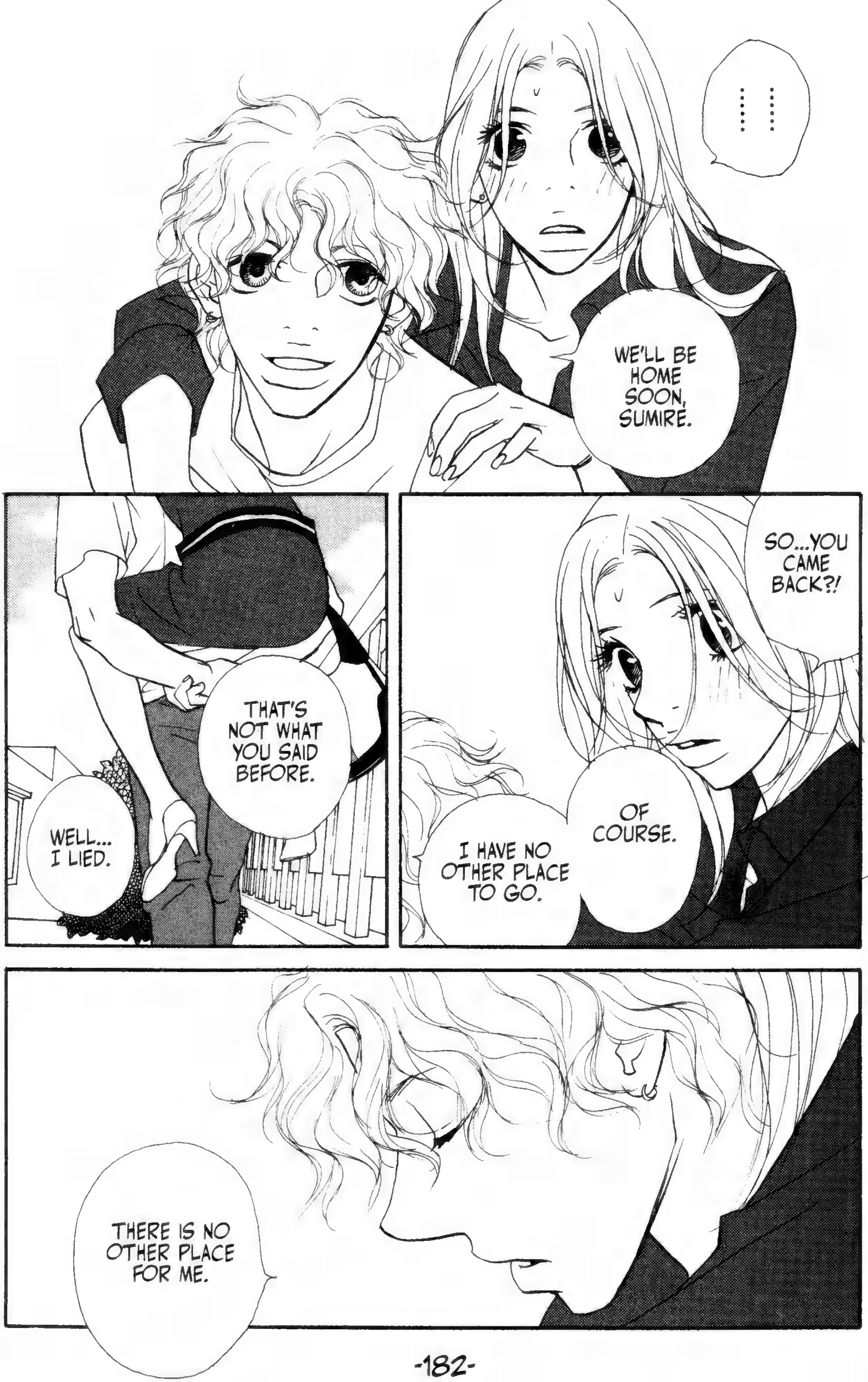
MOMO WAS SO EXCITED ABOUT IT...
YOU CAN STAY HOME FOR A WHOLE WEEK, SUMIRE?!
YAHOOO!
HE EVEN PLANNED AN OUTING FOR US.
WHAT'S THIS ALL-DAY GUNDAM GAME BUSINESS?
WHY?
UGH-- DON'T LOOK AT THAT YET!
"I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD..."
"...TO YOUR VACATION."

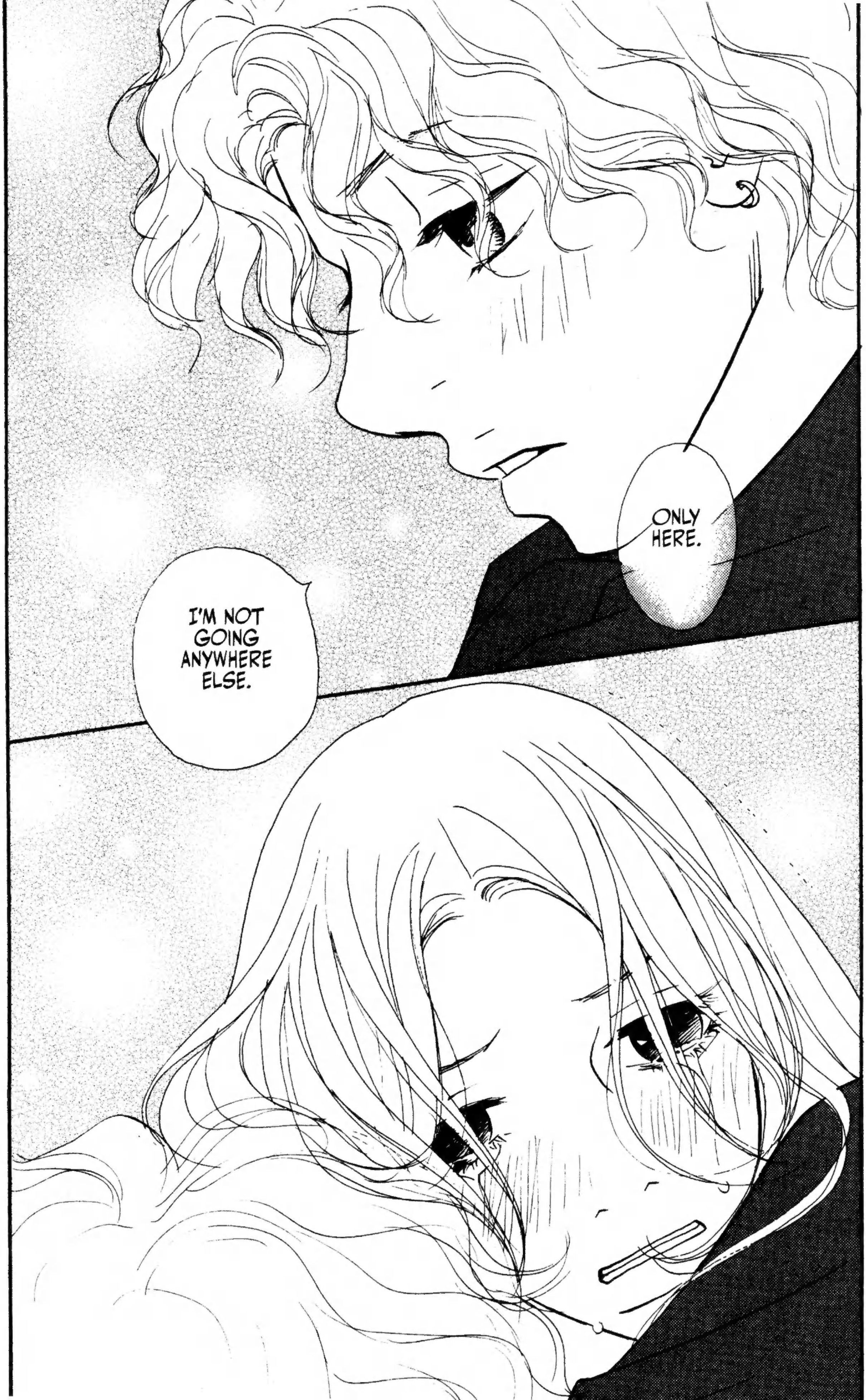
AND NOW, MORE INFORMATION ON TODAY'S TYPHOON...
NORTH AND WEST OF THE KANTO AREA HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY DECLARED A STORM ZONE.
MANY RAIL LINES HAVE CANCELLED THEIR OPERATION FOR THE DAY...
AH--WHERE'S MS. IWAYA?
SHE'S DECIDED TO GO HOME EARLY.
THOUGH I'M AFRAID SHE'LL JUST GET MORE SICK, BEING OUTSIDE IN THIS WEATHER.
LET'S GO HOME.
KYA!
I SHOULD BE WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO BE.
EVEN IF I HAVE TO BE ALL ALONE.
WHOA!
UGH--I HATE THIS!
MY FEVER'S GETTING HIGHER...

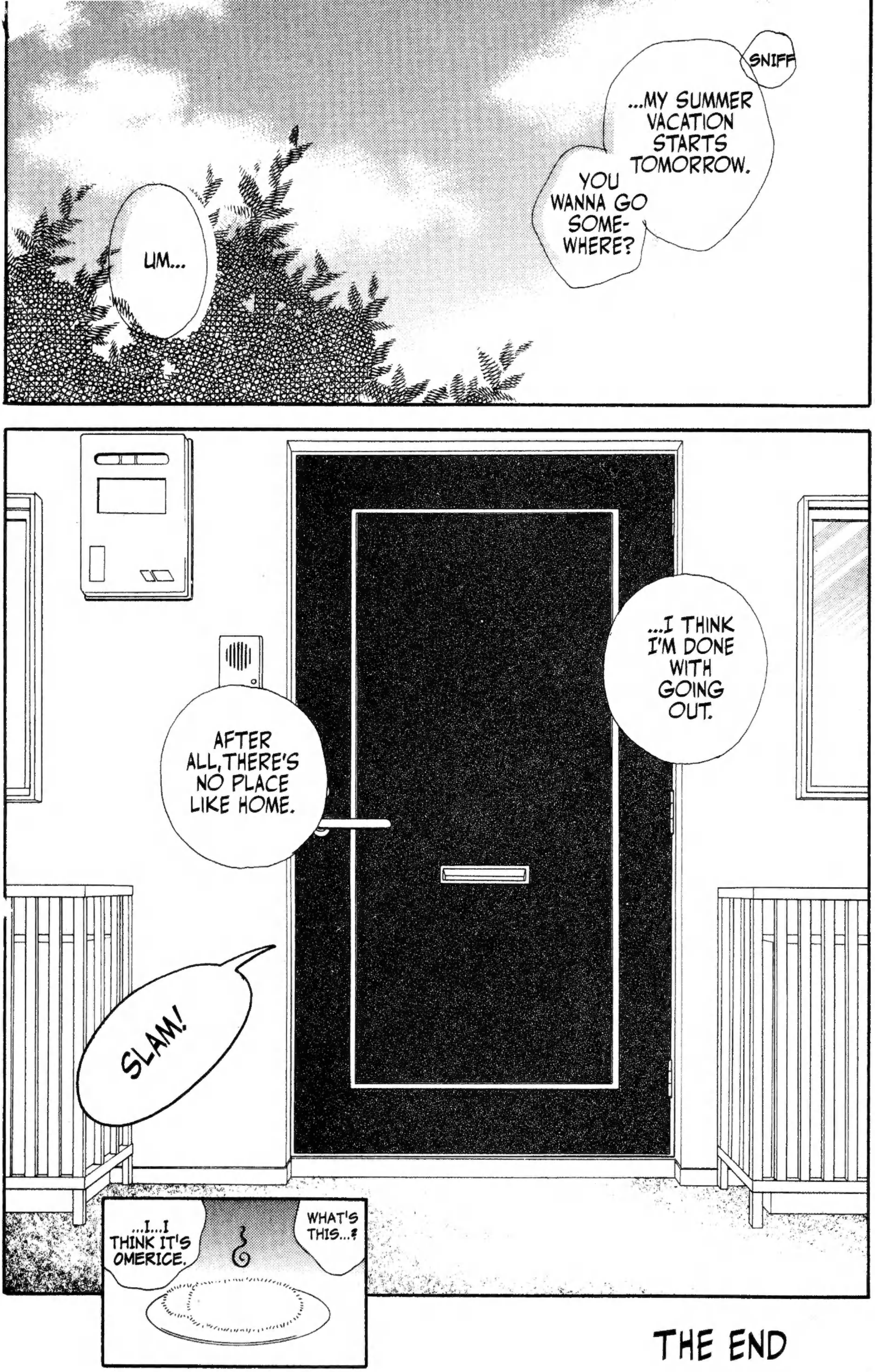

GOTTA HURRY.
SPLASH!
GOTTA HURRY HOME.
!
AH... EXCUSE ME...


MO...!
I'M THE ONE...

...WHO WAS LOST.
SUMIRE!
SUMIRE!
LOOK UP AND SEE!
......


......
WE'LL BE HOME SOON, SUMIRE.
SO...YOU CAME BACK?!
OF COURSE.
I HAVE NO OTHER PLACE TO GO.
THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU SAID BEFORE.
WELL... I LIED.
THERE IS NO OTHER PLACE FOR ME.


ONLY HERE.
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE ELSE.

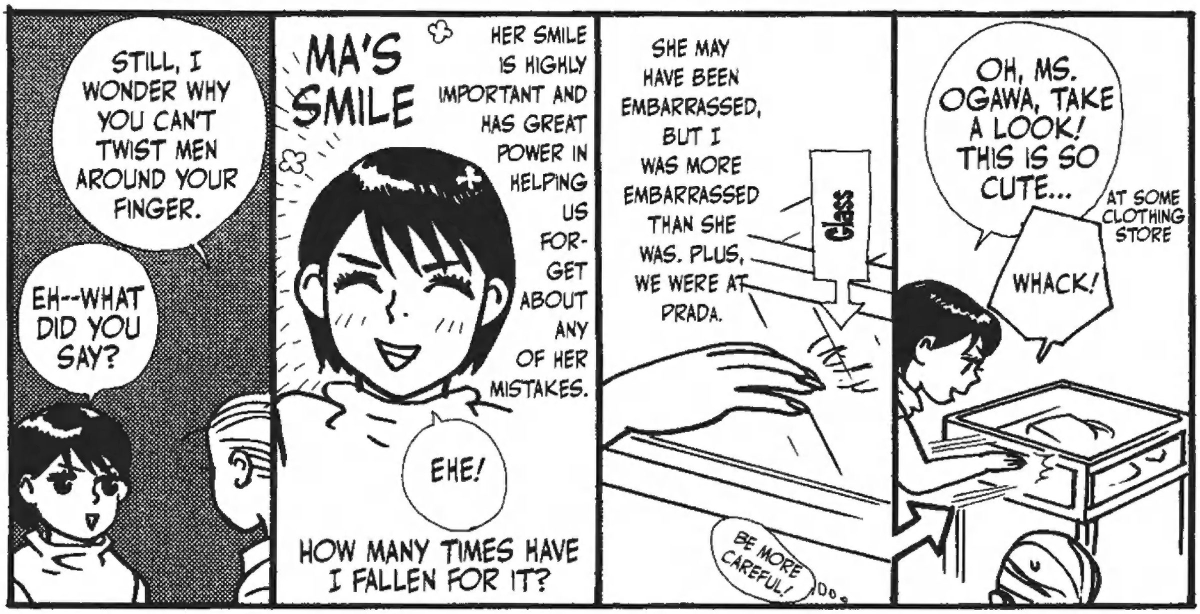


THINGS GROW FASTER IN THE SUMMER...

THE END

MA GOES FOR IT! ③

OGAWA VERSION



FIGURES, MADE BY JUN JUN, CAN BE SEEN ON MY HOMEPAGE. TEDDY BEAR WITH VIOLET WAS MADE BY MS. ASAMI HARUNA. IT WAS PERFECT FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.

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CHECK IT!

THE OFFICIAL HOMEPAGE OF YAYOI OGAWA.

EXTRA HEAVY SYRUP

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You're My Pet 3

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